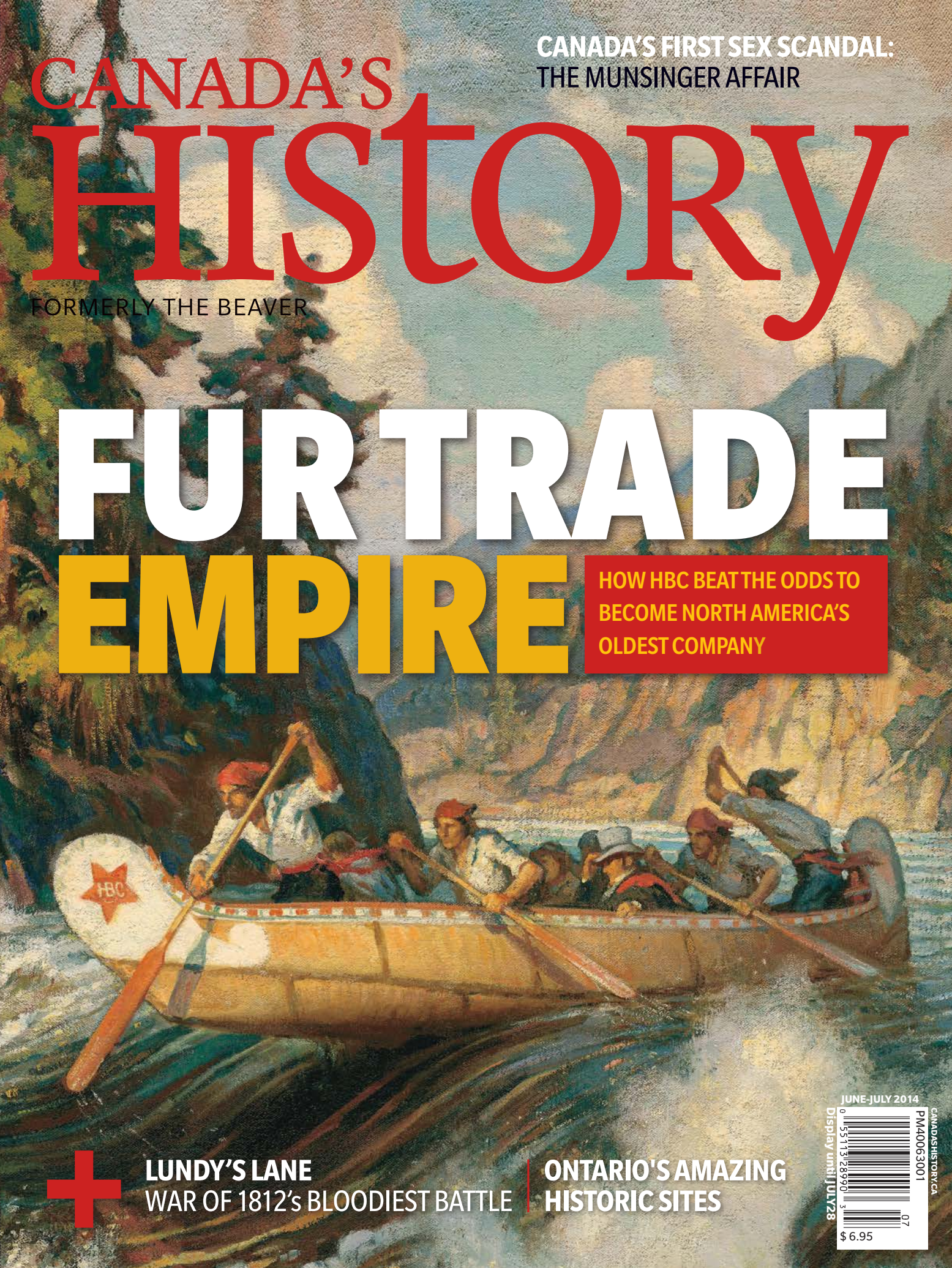

CANADA'S FIRST SEX SCANDAL:
THE MUNSINGER AFFAIR
CANADA'S
HISTORY
FORMERLY THE BEAVER
FUR TRADE
EMPIRE
HOW HBC BEAT THE ODDS TO BECOME NORTH AMERICA'S OLDEST COMPANY
HBC
LUNDY'S LANE
WAR OF 1812's BLOODIEST BATTLE
ONTARIO'S AMAZING
HISTORIC SITES
JUNE-JULY 2014
Display until JULY 28
CANADASHISTORY.CA
PM40063001
$ 6.95

RAM 1500

MOTOR TREND TRUCK OF THE YEAR® 2014

THE FIRST EVER BACK-TO-BACK WINNER IN HISTORY

For 2014, Ram 1500 has gone where no other truck has gone before – achieving the first ever back-to-back win of *Motor Trend's* Truck of the Year.® Its available new 3.0L EcoDiesel V6 engine also lets it go where other trucks can't by achieving fuel economy as good as 7.1 L/100 KM (40 MPG)* highway. Ram 1500 is now not only Canada's Most Fuel-Efficient Pickup, it's also the country's only light-duty diesel pickup. With all these class-exclusives, including an 8-speed automatic transmission± and available Active-Level™ Four-Corner Air Suspension‡, it looks like Canada's longest-lasting pickup≠ will continue to be the talk of the truck world for years to come.

GUTS·GLORY RAM

RAMTRUCK.CA

*Based on 2014 EnerGuide highway fuel consumption ratings. Government of Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. 10.2 L/100 km (28 MPG) city and 7.1 L/100 km (40 MPG) highway on Ram 1500 4x2 model with 3.0L EcoDiesel V6 and 8-speed automatic. Ask your retailer for EnerGuide information. ≠Based on longevity of entire Ram large pickup segment compared to all competitive large pickups on the road since 1988. Longevity based on IIHS Automotive: Polk Canadian Vehicles In Operation data as of July 1, 2013, for model years 1988-2013 for all large pickups sold and available in Canada over the last 26 years. ±Based on *Automotive News* Full-Size Pickup segmentation.

Vol 94: 3

26

Features

26 Upstart Empire
How HBC's Company of Adventurers defied the odds in 1670 to become North America's oldest commercial corporation. *by Mark Collin Reid*

36 Last Post
No longer relevant in battle, the bugle still holds a place in Canada's military tradition. But for how long? *by Lyndsie Bourgon*

40 The Munsinger Affair
Gerda Munsinger, the East German woman behind Canada's first national political sex scandal, was not exactly who she appeared to be. *by Allan Levine*

46 The Battle of Lundy's Lane
The seventh — and last — invasion of Canada was marked by the fiercest fighting of the War of 1812. *by Donald E. Graves*

40

COVER ILLUSTRATION: ADAM SHERRIFF SCOTT/HBC CORPORATE COLLECTION

CONTENTS

Departments

10 Letters Irish Yankee invasions. Warm words. A global view. Striking results. Medicare worth every tax dollar.

17 Christopher Moore A dame shame: They're issuing knighthoods down under. Will Canada follow suit?

20 Explorations Honing history: Turning research vision at the Canadian Museum of History into reality.

22 Trading Post Frances Simpson's engraved seal. Plus, stories from more than nine decades of *The Beaver* magazine.

24 Roots Name games: Online geneaology sites are useful, but they rarely work miracles.

52 History Matters The President and CEO of Canada's History Society bids farewell.

56 Reviews Poetic transport. Fur-gotten Dominion. Ribbon of type. Unsettled people. Diplomatic touch. More books: Tragedy remembered, iconic vessel examined, Arctic adventures retold, brewing history celebrated.

63 Destinations A couple's bucket list includes visiting every National Historic Site in Ontario.

66 Album Goodbye war, hello glamour.

Currents

12 Our home and native Locomotive CN6400.

12 Object of interest Prime ministerial cigar box.

13 By the numbers Hillcrest mine disaster.

14 News Interpretive centre for Canada's "Famous Five" women opens in Calgary's Heritage Park.

15 Photographic memory Frederick J. Claxton documented his trip to Dawson during the Klondike gold rush.

16 News A recently discovered will helps to unlock the Basque presence in sixteenth-century Newfoundland.

COMING UP IN CANADA'S HISTORY

Fathers and Daughters of Confederation

This fall marks the 150th anniversary of the Charlottetown and Quebec Conferences that led to Confederation. Christopher Moore highlights five things the Fathers of Confederation got right.

Plus: Anne McDonald looks at what the daughters of the Confederation conference delegates were doing behind the scenes at balls and other social events.

1812 2012
NIAGARA
1812
Legacy Council

THE NIAGARA 1812 LEGACY COUNCIL PRESENTS THE

NIAGARA 1814 CAMPAIGN

1814 *was the final and bloodiest year of fighting in the Niagara region during the War of 1812. The final American invasion featured the Battles of Chippawa, Lundy's Lane, Cook's Mills and the Siege of Fort Erie. Both armies were now equally competent and the ferocity of the fighting left thousands of casualties. Peace arrived in December 1814 and today we commemorate the battles and celebrate the 200 years of continuing friendship between Canada and the United States.*

The Battle of Chippawa

JULY 5-6, 2014 **#Chippawa200**

Commemorate the 200th anniversary of the conflict, as it is recreated on what is one of Canada's most pristine battlefields. Battle re-enactments and live demonstrations will take place throughout the weekend, and historic merchants will add to the ambiance of this once-in-a-lifetime bicentennial event.

The Battle of Lundy's Lane

JULY 25, 2014 **#LundysLane200**

A participatory event will start at 8:30 p.m. from two points in the city. From two starting points, participants will walk 2.5kms through the streets and converge on the Battlefield at dusk, following the old Portage Road like the combatants on that horrendous night 200 years ago. Once there, a unique experience will overtake you, where you will be involved in the remembrance of the bloodiest battle of the War of 1812.

The Siege of Fort Erie

AUG 9-10, 2014 **#SiegeofFortErie200**

The Niagara Parks present the 28th annual Siege of Fort Erie during its 200th Anniversary. North America's largest annual 1812 battles. With 4 different re-enactments, check out the Saturday night battle where the fort is blown up!

The Battle of Cook's Mills

OCT 18-19, 2014 **#CooksMills200**

The last battle fought in Niagara during the war will be recreated in Cook's Mills (Welland) at the site it was fought at 200 years ago. At the site now, is a new and beautiful 1812 Peace Garden for the public to enjoy. The (first time) re-enactment will enhance the knowledge of the pivotal chapter in Canadian history that unfolded in the quaint Cook's Mills.

#Niagara1812

LIVE TWEETS OF THE BATTLES

Follow us on Twitter for LIVE, historically accurate accounts of each battle, on their exact days. @Niagara1812

DISCOVER1812.COM

Canada

*Events are subject to change. Please contact us for more details or visit our website for up-to-date info.

Peggy's Cove

Nova Scotia
with Prince Edward Island
10 Days $1395

Louisbourg Lighthouse

This is your year to visit Canada's Atlantic Coast and Canadian Maritimes! With Caravan you visit all three of Canada's Maritime Provinces: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

Grand Canyon

Grand Canyon
with Sedona, Bryce & Zion
8 Days $1395

Enjoy 2 nights at Zion National Park

Explore the greatest National Parks of America's Southwest! Enjoy 2 nights at the Grand Canyon, 2 nights at the only lodge inside Zion National Park and 2 relaxing nights at Lake Powell Resort.

Join the smart shoppers & experienced travellers who rely on Caravan to handle all the details while you and your family enjoy a well-earned, worry-free vacation.

Affordable Guided Vacations (+tax, fees)

Guatemala with Tikal	10 days	$1195
Costa Rica	9 days	$1095
Panama, Canal Cruise	8 days	$1195
Nova Scotia, P.E.I.	10 days	$1395
Canadian Rockies	9 days	$1595
Grand Canyon	8 days	$1395
Mt. Rushmore	8 days	$1295
California Coast	8 days	$1295
New England, Foliage	8 days	$1295

"Brilliant, affordable pricing"
—Arthur Frommer, Travel Editor

The #1 In Value
Free Info Guide
1-800-Caravan
Caravan.com
caravan®
Guided Vacations Since 1952

CANADA'S HISTORY

BRYCE HALL MAIN FLOOR, 515 PORTAGE AVENUE WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, R3B 2E9
TEL.: 1.888.816.0997 • FAX: 204.988.9309 • INFO@CANADASHISTORY.CA

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
DIRECTOR, CONTENT DEVELOPMENT
Mark Collin Reid

SENIOR EDITOR
Nelle Oosterom

ART DIRECTOR (CANADA'S HISTORY AND CANADASHISTORY.CA)
James Gillespie

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Phil Koch

INTERNS
Steve Ducharme, David Vokey

PRESIDENT AND CEO
Deborah Morrison

PUBLISHER
Melony Ward

DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
Patricia Gerow

CIRCULATION AND MARKETING MANAGER
Danielle Chartier

CIRCULATION CONSULTANTS
P.J. Brown, Etatech Consulting
Scott Bullock, Circ3 Solutions

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS
Joel Ralph

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Andrew Workman

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH COORDINATOR
Jean-Philippe Proulx

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR
Joanna Dawson

NEW MEDIA EDITOR
Maria Cristina Laureano

CANADA'S HISTORY SOCIETY

Canada's History Society was founded in 1994 to popularize Canadian history. The society's work includes: *Canada's History* magazine, *Kayak: Canada's History Magazine for Kids*, CanadasHistory.ca, and the Governor General's History Awards.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard W. Pound, Chair
Gordon Barnhart
John Bennett
Alex Graham
Paul Jones
Stéphane Lévesque
Karen Prentice
David Ross
Stephen Thomas
Aritha van Herk

ADVISORY COUNCIL

E. James Arnett
Charlie Baillie
Doug Barrington
Elsa Franklin
Charlotte Gray
John Honderich
Don Newman
Peter C. Newman
Thomas H.B. Symons
Jane Urquhart

Publisher Emeritus
Rolph Huband

President Emeritus
Joseph E. Martin

Canada's History magazine was founded by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1920 as *The Beaver: A Journal of Progress*. The HBC's commitment to the History Society and its programs continues today through the HBC History Foundation.

Editorial guidelines can be found on our website. We assume no responsibility for unsolicited material.

©2014 Canada's History Society. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission of the publisher is strictly forbidden.

ISSN 1920-9894

Member Services
Canada's History
PO Box 118 Station Main
Markham, ON, L3P 3J5
Canada
Phone: 1-888-816-0997
Fax: 905-946-1679
Email: memberservices@CanadasHistory.ca

Annual Subscription (6 issues)
Canada, $32.95 (GST included).
Please add $10 a year for U.S. orders and $18 a year for foreign orders.
Single copy price: $6.95

GST Registration Number
13868 1408 RT 0001

Advertising Representative
Nick R. Cino
Rocket Science Media
Phone: 647-296-5348
Email: ads@CanadasHistory.ca

Mailing Preference
Occasionally, we may provide our subscriber list to external organizations that may have products or services of interest to our readers. Subscribers have the right to request their names not be used for such third-party purposes. If you do not wish to receive such communications, please contact Member Services.

Canadian Postmaster
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:
Canada's History,
PO Box 118 Station Main
Markham, ON, L3P 3J5
Canada

Publications Mail Agreement No. 40063001

Postage paid in Winnipeg.

Issued June 2014
Printed in Canada.

MIX Paper from responsible sources FSC® C011825
Alliance for Audited Media
mmpa
Magazines Canada
DISTRIBUTED BY CoasttoCoast

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Canada

WELL KEELED

From the first days of the fur trade, to outfitting the $25-a-week wilderness tours of the last century, Hudson's Bay Company and Canada have grown together on the water. Our contemporary canoes are made exclusively for Hudson's Bay Company by Langford Canoe, Canada's oldest canoe company, bearing iconic designs from our archive.

HUDSON'S BAY

INCORPORATED 2 MAY 1670

Fine company

When King Charles II granted Hudson's Bay Company its charter on May 2, 1670, the colony of Jamestown, Virginia, was sixty-three years old. Quebec, founded a year after Jamestown, was home to less than two thousand people. The eastern seaboard was filled with New Englanders loyal to the British Crown, while further south the gold-mad Spanish were ruthlessly conquering Central and South America.

MARIANNE HELM

Lust for precious metals drove much of the exploration that took place in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. But North America's treasures largely resided in its other natural resources: its timber, its coastal fish stocks, and its abundance of fur-bearing mammals — particularly, an industrious, buck-toothed, semi-aquatic rodent.

Yes, the humble beaver quickly became the fuel that drove the economic engine of the northern half of the New World. Its thick, lustrous fur made the best felt for hats, and, by the sixteenth century, demand for beaver had led to its near extinction in western Europe. With fur supplies dwindling, prices soared, making expansion into North America a potentially lucrative proposition for furriers.

Enter HBC, a "Company of Adventurers" that sought to outwit the fur traders already in business at Montreal by sailing directly to Hudson Bay to trade with local Aboriginal trappers. At the time, no one could have foreseen the role HBC would play in shaping both Canada and the United States. For roughly two centuries, it ruled a vast territory, known as Rupert's Land, stretching from the Arctic Circle to southern Minnesota and from Alberta in the west to Quebec in the east. Many of HBC's far-flung forts and outposts would grow into today's modern towns and cities, including Fort Garry (Winnipeg), Fort Edmonton, and Fort Victoria.

In 1869, HBC sold its vast holdings to Canada in return for millions of hectares of prime land along the railway route through the West. The timing was perfect, for the fur trade was fading and HBC realized that its future lay in selling goods and supplies to the millions of new immigrants flooding into the West.

This year, the company is marking its 344th anniversary — a staggeringly long lifespan for any business. By comparison, Canada is only 147 years old.

There's also another HBC-related anniversary to celebrate in 2014. It's been twenty years since HBC helped found Canada's National History Society and donated its archives to the Archives of Manitoba and its artifacts collection to the Manitoba Museum. The history society publishes this magazine, formerly known as *The Beaver*, which was originally HBC's in-house publication.

Over the past two decades, the history society's publishing operations have grown to include two magazines — *Canada's History* and *Kayak: Canada's History Magazine for Kids* — several books, and an eight-channel website, CanadasHistory.ca. It also runs the Governor General's History Awards and the recently launched Government of Canada History Awards.

As the society heads into its third decade, we invite you to journey back in this issue to when it all began — with the 1670 founding of HBC — and discover how an upstart group of fur traders beat the odds to become the oldest company in North America.

• • •

To celebrate Destinations, our new history-themed travel website, we're asking readers to send us their favourite vacation photos of historic locations. They can be recent pictures or images from yesteryear. Email photos to PhotoClub@CanadasHistory.ca. We may feature them in an upcoming issue. And be sure to check out CanadasHistory.ca/Destinations to plan your dream vacation.

Mark Reid

Contributors

Allan Levine, who wrote a feature article about the Gerda Munsinger affair, is a Winnipeg-based historian and writer. He is the author of eleven books, including *King: William Lyon Mackenzie King, a Life Guided by the Hand of Destiny* (2011), which won the Alexander Kennedy Isbister Award for Non-Fiction. His book *Fugitives of the Forest: The Heroic Story of Jewish Resistance and Survival During the Second World War (1998)* won the Yad Vashem Prize. His next book, *Toronto: A Life and Times*, will be published in 2014. Levine holds a doctorate in Canadian history.

Dean F. Oliver wrote an Explorations article about the Canadian Museum of History's long-term research strategy. Oliver joined the museum in 2013 as the director of research. Prior to that, he spent fifteen years with the Canadian War Museum. He is also a writer, lecturer, and media commentator. His most recent book (with J.L. Granatstein), *The Oxford Companion to Canadian Military History* (2010), won the annual Charles P. Stacey Award as the best book published on Canadian military history. Oliver holds a doctorate in history from York University.

Donald E. Graves, author of the article on the Battle of Lundy's Lane, is a Canadian historian with a special interest in the War of 1812. Graves has written several books, including *Where Right and Glory lead! The Battle of Lundy's Lane, 1814*, on which the article is based. This book and the author's recently published title, *And All Their Glory Past*, provide a complete history of the Niagara campaign of 1814. Graves also wrote the cover story "Who Really Won the War of 1812?" for the December 2012–January 2013 issue of *Canada's History*.

Lyndsie Bourgon wrote about the disappearing tradition of bugling in the Canadian military. A freelance writer based in Calgary, she has written for publications including *The Walrus*, *Maisonneuve*, *Slate*, the *Globe and Mail*, the *National Post*, and *Maclean's*, covering a wide range of topics. She has travelled widely, living and working in Botswana, Turkey, Scotland, and Italy, as well as Halifax and Haida Gwaii, British Columbia. She was prompted to write the story after learning that taped bugle recordings are often played at veterans' funerals and other ceremonies.

BELUGAS & HERITAGE OF CHURCHILL, MB

Tuesday July 29 to Monday August 04, 2014

Roundtrip from Winnipeg to Churchill, Manitoba by rail to experience the amazing heritage and wildlife of Northern Manitoba during summer.

Price $ 1,995.00 CDN + GST per person in a Train Section or $2,195.00 In a Train Room based on double occupancy. Single supplement $200.00
*Prices subject to change.

FOR MORE DETAILS CALL
Rail Travel Tours toll free: **1-866-704-3528**
or visit **www.CanadasHistory.ca/travel**
*Packages include hotel stays, rail trips, transfers, most meals, heritage attractions, and additional heritage presentations.

CANADA'S HISTORY TRAVELS

SUPERIOR COLOURS & HERITAGE OF NORTHERN ONTARIO TOUR

Thursday October 2 to Monday October 06, 2014

Boats, Budd Rail Cars, buses, beautiful fall foliage and heritage experiences on this always popular tour includes a visit to the steamships SS *Keewatin* and the RMS *Segwun* lunch cruise and travel on VIA Rail's *Sudbury-White River train*.

Price $ 945.00 CDN + HST per person based on double occupancy. Single supplement $200.00

FOR MORE DETAILS CALL
Rail Travel Tours toll free: **1-866-704-3528**
or visit **www.CanadasHistory.ca/travel**
*Packages include hotel stays, rail trips, transfers, most meals, heritage attractions, and additional heritage presentations.

CANADA'S HISTORY TRAVELS

By donating your unused Aeroplan points to Canada's History, you help us fly award-winning teachers to our annual Governor General's Award ceremony at Rideau Hall.

YOU CAN HELP CANADA'S HISTORY: WITH AEROPLAN

Help recognize Canada's top history teachers!

Download the donation form at CanadasHistory.ca/Aeroplan

aeroplan

CANADA'S HISTORY

Irish Yankee invasions

I really enjoyed the article "Raising Hell in Montreal" by Pierre Home-Douglas [April-May 2014]. I would add that there was another connection between the U.S. and Canada during and after the Civil War — the Fenians. These were a ragtag group of former Northern Civil War soldiers — Irish Yankees — who turned their sights northward to attack British North America.

There were many raids and battles, but they were largely unsuccessful because they were poorly led and weren't very well organized or strongly disciplined. Eventually the movement collapsed.

So all of this is to say that both the Confederates and the Yankees were linked to Canadians during the Civil War, although for vastly different reasons.

Evelyn Dreiling
North Vancouver

Warm words

If your aim was to deliver your readers from the cold and long captivity of this memorable winter you have succeeded extremely well with the April–May issue of this great magazine.

From beginning to end it was time well spent. I always read the book reviews, and there was actually a book I want to read, and perhaps even buy, on slavery in Canada [*Canada's Forgotten Slaves: Two Hundred Years of Bondage*].

Luc Matter
Lakefield, Quebec

The April–May issue is the best you have published for years. I read it from cover to cover, and you hardly mentioned the War of 1812 once!

Catherine Cox
Allison, New Brunswick

A global view

Regarding the article about Norse activities in Canada's Arctic [April–May 2014], Martin Behaim's 1492 globe is apparently the oldest surviving globe, but terrestrial globes go back to the third century BC.

Eratosthenes (the Greek mathematician and astronomer) measured the circumference of the earth with remarkable accuracy in 240 BC using what amounts to a difference in latitude and north-south distance between two points. Long before Columbus, European mariners knew that the pole star rose as one went north but somehow did not realize that by measuring this angle at two points that were a known north-south distance apart one could calculate the circumference of the earth.

David H. Webster
Kentville, Nova Scotia

Striking results

"Canada Without Medicare" [February–March 2014] was an interesting story about medicare and what could have happened, given a few changes in the attitudes and events as they unfolded. I was on a hospital board of governors in Alberta for some twenty years. The result of medicare at that level was an influx of doctors from England.

It was said that during the doctors strike the death rate in Saskatchewan went down. I never checked the statistics, but philosopher Ivan Illich, author of *Medical Nemesis*, would probably say that was a likely outcome.

Frank Russell
Lethbridge, Alberta

Worth every tax dollar

As a proud Canadian, I couldn't imagine not having health care ["Canada Without Medicare," February–March 2014]. Our health card is pure gold, and I'm thankful for it. I couldn't imagine not wanting everyone to have access to our medical system, even if it means my taxes increase. It may not always be perfect, but we have one — and for that I would like to thank Tommy Douglas.

Keiron Clarke
Toronto

Sober Senate thought

In "Cleaning house" [February–March 2014] Christopher Moore has the right to his own opinion about how our Senate should be reformed. As a historian, I'm sure he's aware of the uses and abuses of history. Canadians have only been seriously engaged with the Constitution Act since 1982, which is what the Supreme Court of Canada will reference. Sober second thought is needed, not throwing democracy out with the wash.

Janice Isopp
Selkirk, Manitoba

Mistaken medium

The April–May 2014 issue arrived today, and a quick skim suggests it may offer even better than your usual excellent content.

However, on page 46 ["When Smoking Was Chic"], in the reproduction of the cover of *Canadian Home Journal* showing the "Macdondald Lassie," the cutline refers to a photo, when it is clearly a painting signed by the artist Rex Wood.

Reverend W.G. Portman
Regina

Email comments to editors@CanadasHistory.ca or write to *Canada's History*, Bryce Hall Main Floor, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 2E9 Canada. Include your address and phone number. Letters may be edited for clarity or length.

tvo SMART KIDS NOW
SMART ADULTS LATER

TVO.ORG

"I WANNA BE A MARINE BIOLOGIST, BUT FIRST I GOTTA LEARN HOW TO SWIM."

TVO, a resource for parents to help their kids with reading, math and science so they can be whatever they want.

TVO is a registered charity #85985 0232 RR0001

OUR HOME AND NATIVE

Unveiling of the CN6400 series locomotive, Bonaventure Station, Montreal, June 10, 1936.

Locomotive CN6400

In 1939, when King George VI and Queen Elizabeth embarked on the first tour of Canada by a reigning British monarch, one of the locomotives that pulled their train was CN6400, a Canadian-designed-and-built example of the era's fascination with streamlining.

The design came from work in 1931–32 at the National Research Council's then-new Ottawa wind tunnel. A model of Canadian National Railway's high-speed steam locomotives was tested by J.J. Green, primarily to resolve the problem of smoke obscuring the engineer's view, and an improved model was made.

But by the time CN decided to proceed, with help from a 1935 federal government investment in railway renewal, promotional opportunities related to the locomotive's appearance had become the top reason for adopting a new design. "Canada's contribution to stream-lining art," proclaimed CN's monthly magazine after the 1936 construction of five 6400 class engines based on Green's work.

For its small part of the royal tour, CN6400 received a blue colour scheme. It wore the same colours at that year's New York World's Fair and long afterwards in CN promotional materials.

Removed from service in 1957, and preserved by CN as the steam era came to an end, CN6400 has been displayed since 1967 at the Canada Science and Technology Museum in Ottawa.

— **Phil Koch**

OBJECT OF INTEREST

Early cigar boxes show the national cult of celebrity that developed in Canada in the late nineteenth century. This cigar box features Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the country's first French-Canadian prime minister and the second Liberal to hold that office.

This artifact is from the national collection of the Canadian Museum of History.

IMG2009-0063-0129-DM, MARIE-LOUISE DERUAZ/CMC 1999.124.18 © CANADIAN MUSEUM OF HISTORY

Museum looks to wilder pasts — and futures

A new exhibit at the Museum of Vancouver explores the city's natural history and provides a historical context to the city's current revitalization plans, such as its bold campaign to become the greenest city in the world by 2020.

In Rewilding Vancouver, guest curator J.B. MacKinnon invites visitors to explore the city as it was before humans drastically altered the natural environment. As visitors enter the exhibit, they'll notice some familiar-looking taxidermy specimens as well as some not-so-familiar recreations — such as "Lumpy," the twenty-five-foot papier mâché sea cow suspended from the ceiling.

MacKinnon, a journalist and the author of *The 100-Mile Diet*, also encourages visitors to imagine a "wilder" city through the use of multimedia soundscapes, videos, and playful photo interventions.

"In order to imagine how green a place can be, you really need to understand the natural history or ecological history of a place," said Debbie Douez, the museum's director of development and marketing. "MacKinnon is helping us remember what our ecological history was, so we can talk about what it might be or what we might want to have back."

MUSEUM OF VANCOUVER

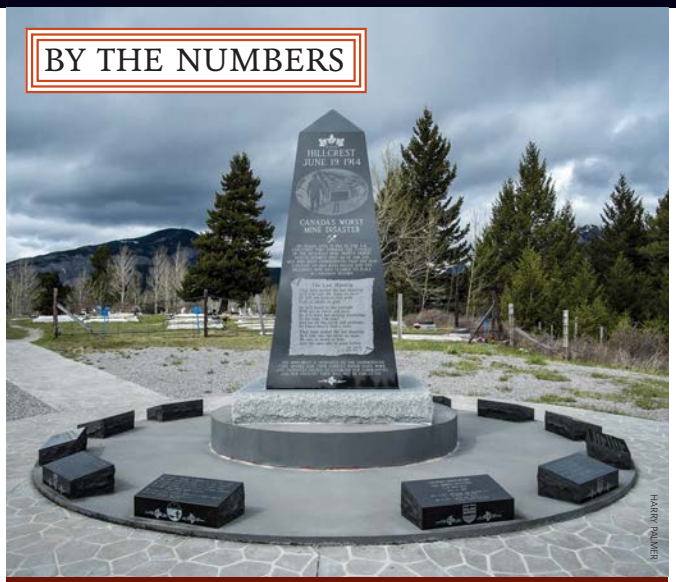
Photo interventions challenge visitors to envision a future where the city is a wilder place.

For instance, Vancouver's False Creek — a small inlet that borders the city's downtown — became an industrial hub beginning around the time of the First World War. Sawmills, factories, and railways bordered the water, wreaking havoc on the surrounding environment.

But, by the 1970s, industrial activity slowed, and the area entered a period of revitalization. When a grey whale entered the waters of False Creek in May 2010, the city caught a glimpse of the natural environment it once had — and hopes to recapture.

Rewilding Vancouver runs until September 1. For photos of the exhibit and a podcast from the Museum of Vancouver, visit CanadasHistory.ca/RewildingVancouver. **— Joanna Dawson**

BY THE NUMBERS



HARRY PALMER

Hillcrest mine disaster

The worst coal-mining disaster in Canadian history occurred at the Hillcrest mine at Crowsnest Pass, Alberta, on Friday, June 19, 1914, at 9:30 a.m. An explosion ripped through what was then considered the safest and best-run mine in the area. Hillcrest has been called Canada's forgotten mine disaster because it was overshadowed by the outbreak of the First World War. The community of Crowsnest Pass is holding a series of hundredth-anniversary commemorative events from June 19 to 21.

1,000 Population of Hillcrest in 1914.

235 Men working underground at the time of the explosion.

189 Men killed in the disaster.

17 Age of the youngest miner killed.

12 Nationalities represented by miners who died.

130 Women widowed, along with four hundred children left fatherless.

1,800 Amount in dollars of compensation given to each deceased miner's dependents.

350,000 Amount in dollars of the hundredth-anniversary commemorative project budget.

— compiled by Nelle Oosterom

HERITAGE PARK HISTORICAL VILLAGE

Groundbreaking women celebrated with new interpretive centre

Calgary's Heritage Park Historical Village is opening a new interpretive centre to honour the legacy of Canada's "Famous Five."

Nellie McClung, Emily Murphy, Louis McKinney, Henrietta Muir Edwards, and Irene Parlby together petitioned the Canadian government to decide whether women could serve as senators. The 1928 Supreme Court of Canada ruling against the women, and the subsequent overturning of that decision by the British Privy Council — which paved the way for women senators — is known as the Persons Case.

"As we stand here today, we've really benefited from what they've accomplished," Heritage Park CEO Alida Visbach said at a media preview this spring. "We will start out by telling the story of these five women, but we will eventually evolve into telling the story of Canadian women in general."

The new centre is a replica of McClung's home, which still sits at the corner of 7th Street and 15th Avenue in downtown Calgary. It was in homes like this that women such as the Famous Five met to discuss the topics of the day.

"They called them pink teas to discourage men from attending," explained Visbach. "They would talk about the politics of the time. They would have the hard conversations that normally women weren't encouraged to have."

Special attention has been given to recreating the details of the original home as closely as possible. The original paint colours were carefully researched, and digital scanners were used to measure every piece of the home.

"All of this trim and woodwork is exactly the same as it was in the original house," Visbach said.

Heritage Park, which turns fifty this summer, is the largest living historical village in Canada. It documents the history of Western Canada from First Nations to the boomtown Calgary of the 1940s. Costumed interpreters and volunteers lead visitors through the park.

"As a living history museum, we tell history through settings, through hands-on immersive experiences," Visbach explained. "So, when you come into this house this summer, Nellie McClung will meet you at the door."

Interpreters will also bring to life the servants who worked in the home to provide visitors with the experience of working-class and immigrant women. The new facility opens to the public on June 20.

— **Joel Ralph**

TAKE THE DAY OFF

June 24

To mark the day in 1948 when Toronto's women teachers gained wage parity with their male colleagues. Make plans for an extra-special summer vacation.

June 29

To remember French officer Jacques-François de Monbeton de Brouilan, who arrived in Acadia on this date in 1701 and became governor the next year. Fortify yourself.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY

First Street, Dawson, 1898

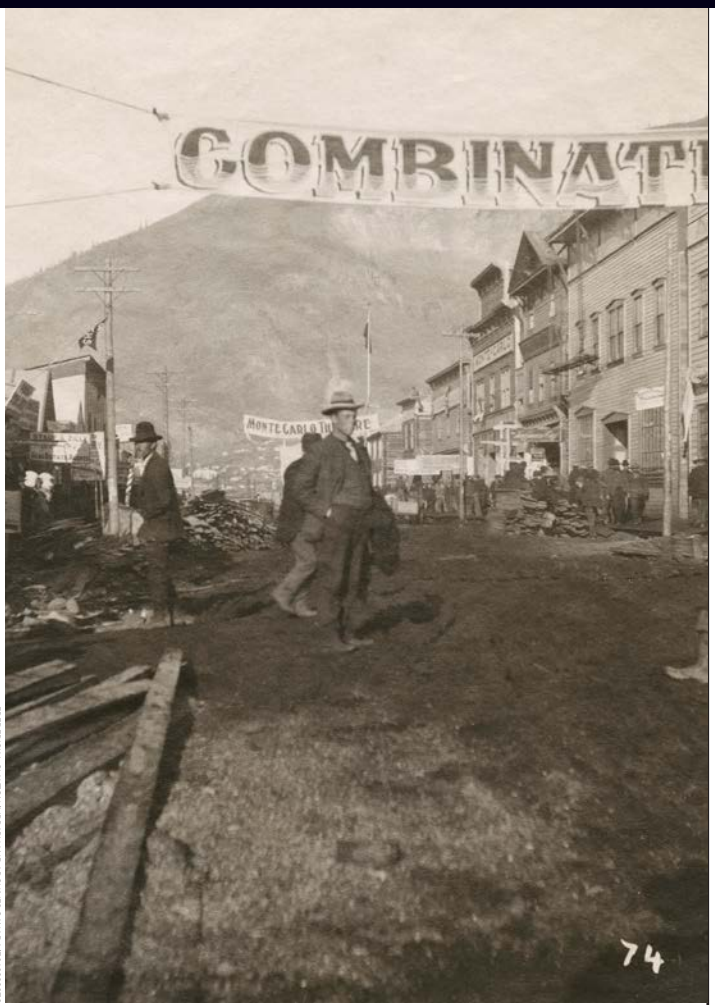
This photograph of First Street in Dawson can be found in one of two albums put together by Frederick J. Claxton to document his trip to the Klondike in 1898–99. They contain ninety-eight photographs that follow his path from Dyea, Alaska, to Dawson, then back to Skagway, Alaska. Also included is Claxton's "free miner's certificate," for which he paid ten dollars in January 1899 (it was good for one year).

It remains unclear why Claxton visited Dawson, as there is no evidence that he actually took part in the hunt for gold. Some evidence suggests that he was interested in support businesses, such as insurance — and, it seems, he also dabbled in amateur photography.

The vantage points of his photographs and the lack of formal posing (as well as a telltale shadow in another image) suggest that the photographs were most likely taken by Claxton with a "detective"-style camera. Being smaller and faster than previous amateur cameras, the detective allowed a photo to be taken without the aid of a tripod, making the photographer as unobtrusive as possible.

Claxton was born August 26, 1856, in Montreal and died January 9, 1947, in San Francisco. He was cremated and interred in the Claxton family plot in Montreal's Mount Royal Cemetery, for — as he wrote to his nephew, politician Brooke Claxton, in a letter dated from 1942 — "although I have lived in California for over forty years, I am still a Canadian."

Selected by Library and Archives Canada photo archivist Shannon Perry.



FREDERICK J. CLAXTON/LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA/E010933078

NOVA SCOTIA TATTOO

Tattoo turns 35

The naval gun race is a highlight of the Nova Scotia Tattoo, an annual showcase of Canadian and international military performers that celebrates its thirty-fifth anniversary in 2014. The term "tattoo" stems from the seventeenth century, when drummers marched through the streets of Dutch villages, summoning British soldiers to return to their quarters from taverns. A drumbeat signalling innkeepers to "doe den tap toe," or turn off the tap, was shortened to "tattoo." The first Nova Scotia Tattoo, in 1979, marked a visit by Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. This year's events run from July 1 to 8 in Halifax.

For more history-related events across Canada, go to **CanadasHistory.ca/Destinations.**

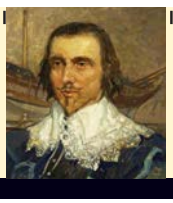
July 12

To commemorate the deaths of two Irish Catholics in Saint John, New Brunswick, in a clash with Orangemen on this day in 1847. Put aside your differences.

July 25

To note the formation on this date in 1916 of the International Nickel Company of Canada, which went on to become the world's largest nickel producer. Flip a coin.

July 31



To recall the day in 1786 when Captain James Strange claimed Vancouver Island for Britain. Take a trip.

A Basque headstone from 1676 found on the Anglican church property in Placentia, Newfoundland and Labrador.

PLACENTIA AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Famous last words

In 1563, a Basque sailor named Domingo de Luca could sense that his end was near. So on May 15 of that year he dictated his last will and testament while fishing in Placentia Bay along what is now Newfoundland and Labrador.

Four hundred and fifty years later, Dr. Michael Barkham has uncovered de Luca's final words in an archive in Spain, and the discovery has communities on both sides of the Atlantic buzzing.

We know that Basque whalers and fisherman voyaged to Atlantic Canada beginning in the sixteenth century. But the Basque did not publicize their exploits and adventures like other European travellers, and so the written record is sparse. De Luca's will is one of few such records and is believed to be the oldest original civil document written in what is now Canada.

For the residents of Placentia, Newfoundland and Labrador, the will is particularly fascinating. One of de Luca's final wishes was to be "buried in this port of Plazencia to a place where those who die are usually taken."

Tom O'Keefe, president of the Placentia Area Historical Society, explains that the will is an important key to unlocking the history of the Basque in Newfoundland.

"This gives documented proof that there was a graveyard even in 1563 existing in Placentia," O'Keefe said, "which would indicate that the Basque and others had probably been here at least a few years before that."

—**Joanna Dawson**

For more, including a podcast with O'Keefe, visit **CanadasHistory.ca/BasqueWill**.

©2013 Casper Art. All rights reserved.
VIKINGS
LIVES BEYOND THE LEGENDS
MAY 16 – NOVEMBER 11, 2014
Get tickets at royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/vikings
#RBCMVikings
ROYAL BC MUSEUM
PRODUCED BY:
Museums Partner
www.museumspartner.com
The Swedish History Museum
LEAD MARKETING PARTNER:
VICTORIA
british columbia full of life
CANADA'S HISTORY
The exhibition is a joint venture between and produced by The Swedish History Museum in Sweden and MuseumsPartner in Austria.

CHRISTOPHER MOORE

A dame shame

They're issuing knighthoods down under. Will Canada follow suit?

When I was young, there was a famous Canadian named Ernest MacMillan. He conducted the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. He was a teacher, a musicologist, a composer, a choir director. He roamed the country for all things musical, from Bach oratorios to songs of the Tsimshian First Nation. He was the most influential Canadian musician of the mid-twentieth century, says the Canadian Encyclopedia.

I always thought he was British. Because he was Sir Ernest MacMillan, I took him to be one of those cultured expats come out to civilize the backwoods. If he was a knight, I assumed, he must have been a Scottish lord's younger son or something.

It turns out he was born in Mimico, Ontario. He spent his whole life in Canada. He declined prestigious appointments to stay in his own country — a great Canadian! But, in 1935, in the last brief flurry of Canadian knighthoods, he was knighted.

What reminded me of poor Sir Ernest was the news that Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott has decided to bring back the knighthood to twenty-first century Australia. He has already chosen the first one. She is actually a "dame" — outgoing Governor General Quentin Bryce.

Knighthoods had a long, vexed history in Canada, and it was always political. At Confederation, the British government caused a scandal by giving John A. Macdonald a knighthood but denying the honour to George-Étienne Cartier and the other Confederation-makers. Thereafter, Liberals often disdained such baubles. George Brown, Alexander Mackenzie (the first Liberal prime minister), and many less prominent figures would not take them. But with Conservatives accepting them happily, there were always enough Liberals who could not resist — though Wilfrid Laurier always said he had been coerced into his, by Queen Victoria, no less.

MCCORD MUSEUM

John A. Macdonald, right, as portrayed by political cartoonist J.W. Bengough. In this 1886 cartoon, Bengough refers to the prime minister as "Sir John A. Falstaff."

In 1902, Canada declared that if any Canadian became a knight it would be at the nomination of the Canadian government, not the British. But the rule was not easily enforced, and during the First World War an orgy of patronage honours, particularly the hereditary ones, discredited the honour system among Canadians. In 1919, the House of Commons voted to put an end to the whole thing, with members calling knighthoods "an insult to democracy."

They succeeded — mostly. In his brief term in office from 1930 to 1935, Prime Minister R.B. Bennett tried to bring the knights back. He chose recipients of real distinction, but all men: Lucy Maud Montgomery had to settle with being named a Commander of the British Empire. But William Lyon Mackenzie King turned down the one offered to him, and he killed off the knighthood as soon as he returned to power. In the 1960s, we got the Order of Canada, which was carefully apolitical. Any knights and baronets still around keep a very low profile. Except Conrad Black, who renounced his Canadian citizenship in pursuit of a title.

In Australia, a left-wing government abolished knighthoods in 1976, only to have a right-wing one bring them back the next year. The left struck again in 1983, and it seemed to last — until the most recent change in government. In New Zealand, knighthood has been back in flower since conservatives took power in 2009, but only until the next change of government, probably; the "honour" seems driven mostly by the will to spite the other side.

The knighthood is already causing awkwardness in Australia, which nearly opted for republicanism not so long ago. Quentin Bryce, a fervent republican herself, is being accused of hypocrisy for becoming a dame at the hands of the Queen. But perhaps, as governor general, she was trapped: To refuse the advice of her prime minister might be unconstitutional.

With many embarrassed Australians mocking the new honourees as a "bunyip aristocracy" (it's a down under slang term with Aboriginal connections and a pedigree of 150 years, and it's not praise) those titles probably won't outlast the next election.

In the meantime, let's hope Stephen Harper doesn't take notice. Who would want to be the next Sir Ernest?

Historian and author Christopher Moore comments regularly in *Canada's History*.

Subscribe and
WIN

Victory in Europe 70th Anniversary Travel Contest

WIN A TRIP TO EUROPE

IN 2015 TO CELEBRATE VICTORY IN WW2

Explore battlefields, war memorials, and participate in the once-in-a-lifetime Liberation Day 70th Anniversary Celebrations in the Netherlands.

Your trip includes return airfare for two, eight nights accommodation, coach travel, guided tours, and admission to historic sites and museums.

ENTER NOW!

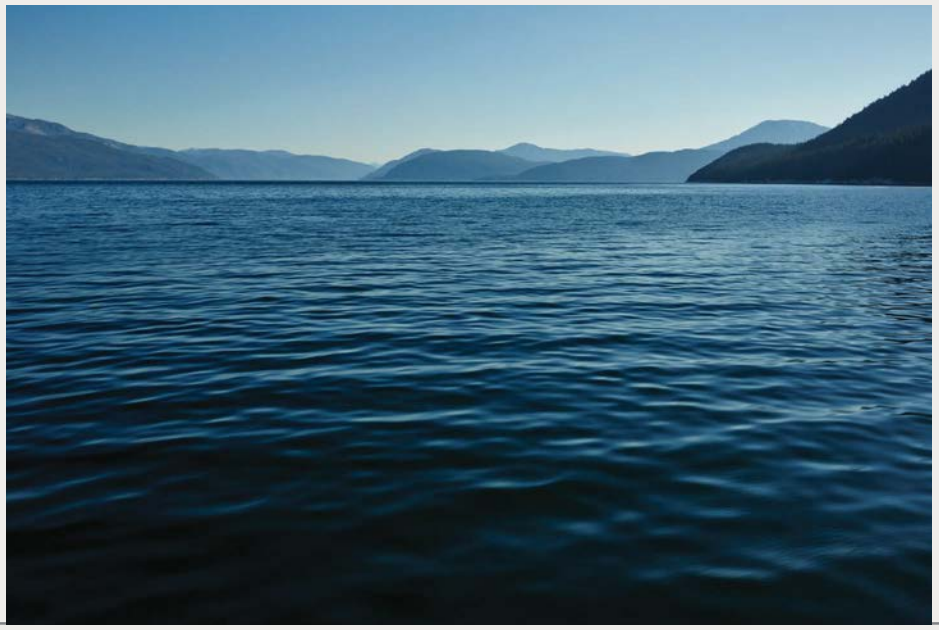
CanadasHistory.ca/Europe2015
or call 1-888-816-0997

Sign up for, renew, or give a gift subscription to *Canada's History*.
You will automatically be entered to win this spectacular trip for each subscription purchased.
Approximate retail value: $11,500. Sponsored by EF Educational Tours.

EF Education First
Educational Tours

No purchase necessary. For full details on how to enter, go to CanadasHistory.ca/SubscribeAndWin.
Contest is open to all Canadian residents over the age of majority. All entries must be received by midnight, January 15, 2015.

CANADA'S HISTORY



"With over 40 years of experience, I can confidently say that Northern Gateway's emergency response will be world class."

- Dr. Ed Owens, expert on shoreline response

Meet the expert:

Dr. Ed Owens is a world renowned authority on shoreline response planning and cleanup operations, and has consulted for the UN, World Bank, and Environment Canada.

Northern Gateway is committed to protecting B.C.'s waters. That's why we will plan, prepare for and implement international emergency response best practices.

— LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCE —

Northern Gateway has consulted with dozens of experts, including Dr. Ed Owens, an oil spill specialist who has acted as a consultant to the UN, the Arctic Council, and more. With over 40 years of experience, he was instrumental in helping us develop our marine emergency response program.

"I have worked closely with Northern Gateway to develop programs for enhanced spill response along all marine transportation routes. These programs will help ensure the environmental safety along the shipping routes."

Northern Gateway will implement some of the safest marine operations practices from around the world to help prevent a marine spill from ever occurring. We are also preparing for the most effective response possible in the unlikely event of a marine emergency.

— EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS —

Our marine emergency response practices go well beyond Canadian requirements. As Owens puts it:

"By placing emergency response capacity at various key locations along the proposed route, valuable time will be saved in the unlikely event of an oil spill – and in a marine emergency situation, response time is critical. But having the right equipment in the right places is not always enough. A world class response capability requires an experienced response team at both the management and operational levels, and integrated training to ensure that timely decisions make the best use of the equipment and resources."

— IMPORTANT CONDITIONS —

This past December, the Joint Review Panel recommended that the project be approved, subject to 209 conditions – including ones that require Northern Gateway to implement effective spill response measures. We are working towards meeting these conditions, the same way we are working hard to meet the five conditions set out by the Province of British Columbia.

In short, Northern Gateway is committed to doing everything possible to build a safer, better project.

NORTHERN GATEWAY

Learn more at ***gatewayfacts.ca***

Working in partnership with B.C. and Alberta First Nations and Métis Communities, and leading energy companies in Canada

The national museum collections offer substantial scope for research.

STEVEN DARBY

Honing history

How the Canadian Museum of History and the Canadian War Museum are turning their research vision into reality. by Dean F. Oliver

In late 2011, the Canadian Museum of History began work on a long-term research strategy. Completed in little more than a year, it is the first review of its kind in the museum's history. The strategy covers both the Museum of History and its affiliate institution, the Canadian War Museum, and lists nine areas of activity grouped in three thematic categories. It will help guide our research activities for the next ten years.

This is how we did it:

Thinking

The basic challenge of research is easily stated: Possibilities are endless, and resources are finite. Meeting the challenge is more complicated. Choosing well and planning carefully are only part of the answer. In public institutions, it is equally critical to consider the needs and expectations of visitors and other users. Skills and resources are also important — those possessed now and those to be developed or acquired later — as is the process of sharing research results.

Research excellence is a consistent goal, of course, but excellence without relevance is a recipe for public disinterest — or worse. Relevance without excellence is equally problematic, making headlines while perhaps undermining public trust. So, goals must include profile and professionalism, plus being trusted in each realm: credible on the merits and accountable in execution.

The development of a research strategy, in other words, was not about picking topics. It was not principally about budgets or resources, either. It was about seeing research simultaneously as knowledge creation and as social value. It was about focussed, disciplined decision-making. Moreover, it was about positioning research, seen holistically for the first time, at the centre of all museum planning.

There were no stifling preconditions in the development process and no subjects were deemed off limits. Executive guidance was brief but firm. The strategy had to be inclusive, long-term, transparent, and linked to two other ongoing corporate initiatives: the development of a partnership network and a public engagement strategy.

Talking

The process started with simple questions to the museum's own staff, both researchers and non-researchers. Why do research? What is it for? What should be done? How? According to what principles? The meetings were in seminar format, conversational in tone, with notes taken by members of the planning team. The discussion flowed generously and with little prompting.

Commonalities quickly emerged. There should be more Canadian content (on which there was near unanimity) without eliminating non-Canadian subjects. There was firm support for the national collections, especially those related to First Peoples. The museum should lead in selected areas of museological research, embrace important anniversaries, and be more strategic in its acquisitions.

Thematic subjects (for example, "the home front" or "immigration") were popular, as were smaller, collections-based initiatives. There were differences, too, and doubts over resources and long-term planning. Non-researchers struggled to describe what researchers did, or why. Researchers felt anonymous and, in many cases, underappreciated. The discussions were frank, revealing, and productive.

Then the conversation moved outside the museum. What would others have the museum do, and why? What were the priorities of the future? From November 2012 to January 2013, the planning team visited sixteen cities, from St. John's, to Iqaluit, to Victoria. Invitees included scholars, museum professionals, writers, and media personalities. There was no formal checklist or typology of guests. Comments were recorded but not attributed by name; authenticity mattered, not authorship. At least two museum employees participated in each session, facilitating and taking notes. Most cities had one session; a couple had two. Most had five to ten participants.

The discussions were spirited and rewarding, covering content, partnerships, research principles, and museology. As during the museum's internal consultations, opinions varied — sometimes widely and with vigour — and similarities emerged. Support for collections (for example, ethnol-

Research on Aboriginal histories is fundamental to any broader understanding of Canada.

DOUG MILLAR

ogy and archaeology) was strong, and there was enthusiasm for multiple perspectives, many participants citing the War Museum's 1812 exhibition as a model. First Peoples, the North, and major national anniversaries were favoured, as were cultural and political history. Some participants worried about curatorial independence or whether an enhanced Canadian focus would crowd out non-Canadian stories. Others preached outreach via new media. Many had specific suggestions and argued passionately; some admitted the obvious — that no strategy could please everyone.

Writing

Team members next sifted through field notes, personal impressions, and participant suggestions, grouping ideas by broad theme or subject. Twenty or so "big ideas" were soon reduced to sixteen, then a dozen. Some themes proved overly ambitious, others ubiquitous and difficult to hypothesize, and a few were redundant. Some were merged, others dropped. "Inclusiveness," became one of four overarching principles. The list coalesced into nine items.

Each team member took one or more of these items and wrote a one-page summary describing its strategic importance. Team meetings then explored each idea's merits and practicability, points of overlap with others, clarity, and possible initiatives. These meetings had the feel of a good graduate seminar, with strong opinions and articulate rebuttals. At some points, recalibration was necessary, with a gentle reminder not to advance the planning team's preferences at the expense of participants' but to weigh and to incorporate both.

The rest was largely editing. In two mammoth sessions, the team reviewed the draft texts line-by-line. The final version was presented to the president of the Canadian Museum of History in late March 2013, as promised, just before fiscal year end. He approved it without changing a syllable.

Doing

The resulting research strategy commits the Canadian Museum of History to exploring contemporary history, museological leadership, First Peoples, the North, and those key compromises and conflicts that have shaped Canada. A short preamble includes a statement of principles to guide all research activities, including: accountability, relevance, inclusiveness, and credibility. Individual subjects cluster logically into three broad themes, none of them mutually exclusive.

The first, "Memory and Meaning," responds to what participants expressed regarding the museum's cultural obligations and opportunities. It has a distinctly contemporary focus, seeing the museum as a societal facilitator and a professional leader. It explores decisive events, difficult subjects, and everyday life in modern Canada.

The strategy here reflects the views of participants who had spoken persuasively about social and civic values, historical and cultural literacy, and the role of museums in helping people to understand change, complexity, and conflict.

Such subjects provide possible connections with a variety of non-traditional audiences, including youth and new Canadians, all of whom must see and feel themselves welcomed in the process.

"First Peoples" represents the importance to Canadian history of Arctic and subarctic peoples, cultures, and experiences, and the centrality of Aboriginal histories to the Canadian narrative. Of all the subjects discussed, these were the most consistently and vigorously argued. Participants saw them as fundamental to any broader understanding of Canada. Many viewed them as the very essence of the museum itself. Much work in this area is already occurring in the new Canadian History Hall, but more will follow, including a major initiative on ancient technology and another showcasing northern art.

"Compromise and Conflict," the strategy's third theme, explores how Canadians have moved, managed, or mobilized in response to change, upheaval, or opportunity. It reflects participants' frequent emphasis on peoples and communities, their concern with politics and questions of identity, and their enthusiasm over modes of cultural expression. It also includes Canada's connections to the world and the importance of using research to make global perspectives available and explicable to Canadian audiences. This theme encompasses democracy, nationalism, and the lingering impact of war on society.

The resulting document is proving far greater than the sum of its parts. Without departing from the museum's historic strengths, it has already reoriented research in multiple mutually supportive directions and begun to reorder work plans, budgets, and organization. It will soon affect partnerships, acquisitions, and other operations. The strategy promises a focussed, flexible approach to long-term planning and an appropriate balance between professional excellence, popular relevance, and public accountability.

Its commitments are simple but profound: to exercise responsible, professional leadership; to deepen public understanding of Canada's First Peoples and the North; to focus sharply and with courage on the triumphs and tragedies of a shared, sometimes difficult past.

The question had been: "What to research, how, and why?" This was the answer, with the generous assistance of dozens of colleagues from coast, to coast, to coast.

Dean F. Oliver is the director of research at the Canadian Museum of History.

TALES AND TREASURES

From the rich legacy of the Hudson's Bay Company

THE MANITOBA MUSEUM, HBC MUSEUM COLLECTION

Frances Simpson's engraved seal

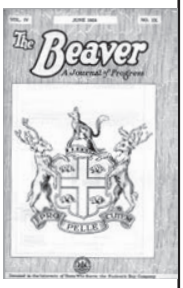
This nineteenth-century engraved seal was used to secure the contents of a letter as well as to identify the sender. Seals were used for centuries prior to the invention of letter glue. Typically, letters were hand-folded and sealed with hot wax. Using a lit candle, the letter sender poured melted wax at the open edge of the fold and then stamped it with the seal. The resin and other materials in the wax create a hard, glossy seal, enabling impressions made in the soft wax to retain their shape after the hot wax cooled. This particular seal, which belonged to Frances Simpson (wife of Hudson's Bay Company Governor Sir George Simpson), has a face made possibly out of sard — a reddish-brown translucent variety of chalcedony, which is a type of quartz. Engraved with Simpson's first name, the seal has a handle decorated with a thin layer of gold and is adorned with a blue ribbon. The Simpsons, who were first cousins, married in 1830. Frances was twenty-six years younger than her husband and bore him five children, four of whom survived infancy.

— Maria Cristina Laureano

In The Beaver…

90 years ago

Armorial bearings



The June 1924 issue featured an explanation of HBC's coat of arms. The armorial bearings include a fox positioned at the top, a shield with four beavers in the middle, two elk on either side of a shield, and the Latin motto "Pro Pelle Cutem," which, loosely translated, means "a skin for a skin."

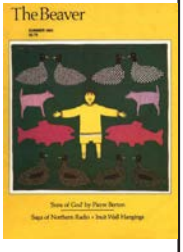
60 years ago

Frances Simpson's journey

Our summer 1954 issue included diary entries written by Frances Simpson (the owner of this month's HBC treasure) early in her marriage to Sir George Simpson. Author Grace Lee Nute recounted the experiences Simpson had on her working honeymoon. During a trip from Montreal to Hudson Bay, the eighteen-year-old newlywed travelled across the continent by canoe. The expedition stopped at an HBC post at Rainy River, which was renamed Fort Frances after the new bride.

30 years ago

Historic peace pipe



Donald B. Smith, a University of Calgary history professor, wrote in the Summer 1984 issue about his ten-year search for a steel peace pipe. The pipe belonged to Kahkewaquonaby, a missionary of European and Ojibwa ancestry. It was given to him in 1834 by Sir Augustus d'Este, a first cousin of Queen Victoria. The pipe was smoked during a friendship ceremony that brought peace between the Iroquois and Ojibwa people, two formerly hostile First Nation groups. After many false leads, Smith discovered that the pipe was in the hands of Reg Campion of Pipestone, Manitoba. The pipe is now at the Manitoba Museum.

The Beaver magazine was originally founded as a Hudson's Bay Company publication in 1920. To read stories from past issues, go to: **CanadasHistory.ca/tradingpost**.
To explore the history of the Hudson's Bay Company, go to: **hbcheritage.ca**.

www.gardenvoices.ca

Garden Voices
of Ontario's Historic Gardens

This Summer!
Explore special places where history & horticulture come together

The Birthplace of Insulin
- Banting House National Historic Site of Canada -

Celebrates the life and career of Major Sir Frederick Banting, co-discoverer of insulin. Discover the man you thought you knew.

E: banting@diabetes.ca
T: 519-673-1752
Hours: Tues–Saturday 12pm–4pm
bantinghosuenhsc.wordpress.com

To learn more, visit diabetes.ca follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/BantingHouse or Check us out on Facebook!

Discover
Belleville's Treasure...

GLANMORE
National Historic Site
1883-2013
Celebrating 130 Years

257 Bridge St. E.
Belleville, ON

WWW.GLANMORE.CA

Sainte-Marie
among the Hurons
Midland

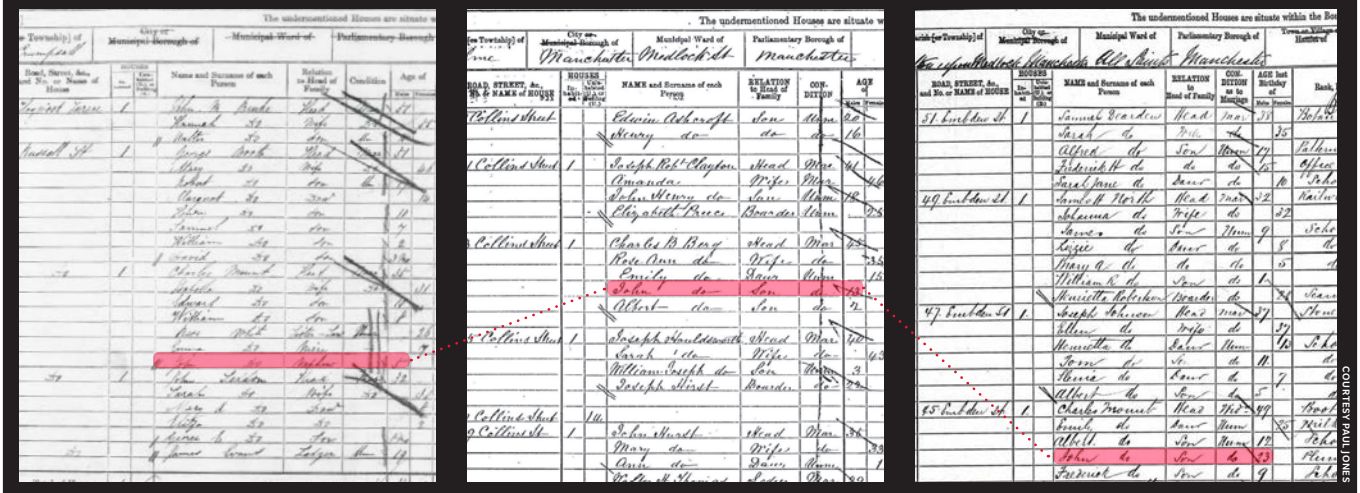
Step into the past and experience Ontario's oldest European settlement and one of Canada's National Historic Sites.

hhp.on.ca or 705-526-7838

Paid for by the Government of Ontario
Ontario

ORILLIA

Leacock
MUSEUM
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
Stephen Leacock's Summer Home
Lakeside Gardens & Trails
- Now with Barrier Free Access -
Leacock Summer Festival
JULY 22-27, 2014
leacockmuseum.com



From left, census documents from 1861, 1871, and 1881 show the evolution of the surname of John Whatsit.

COURTESY PAUL JONES

Name games

Online research sites are very useful — but they rarely work miracles.
By Paul Jones

Most Canadians are familiar with the seductive TV commercials for Ancestry, the genealogy research company with "the world's largest collection of online family history records." Just enter a few family names, and you will soon be discovering the migrants and miners, the war brides and war heroes from whom you're descended. Maybe so, but experienced family historians have learned the hard way that research is rarely simple. Take the case of John, er, John, um . . . . Well, let's just call him John Whatsit for the moment.

I first became aware of John when my friend Ralph's elderly father — knowing I was a family historian — expressed curiosity about the origins of his maternal grandparents, John and Mary Mount, who had settled in Winnipeg a century ago. After a little work we documented the marriage of John and Mary in England and the subsequent births of their six children, between 1883 and 1901, in England and Canada. Eventually the Mounts did settle in Winnipeg, just as Ralph's father had remembered. In the normal course, these findings would have closed my research into the Mount family.

Yet one unusual discovery had come to light in the English 1881 census: John's father, Charles Mount, was shown as a widowed, German-born bootmaker.

I wondered: How strong were John's German roots? Going backward in time, I tried to find John Mount in the 1871 census of England on Ancestry. No luck. Similarly I struck out with father Charles Mount and with John's siblings. There was always the possibility that the family hadn't been counted, but a more likely explanation was a modern mistranscription of the surname from the enumerator's handwritten records.

So I searched the 1871 census for a Charles of unknown surname born in Germany. Ancestry immediately proposed a family that qualified on all counts: head Charles, a shoemaker born in Prussia; children of the right names and ages, including John in his teens; and a wife for Charles, Rose Ann. The surprise: The family's surname was unmistakably Berg in both the original record and the transcription. So how could the Mounts be the same people as the Bergs? Once you know the answer, it's self-evident — "Berg," in German, translates into English as "mountain, mount, hill."

At this point, it might seem as though it would be a snap to go back further in time to locate the young John Berg. But, in the 1861 census, he cannot be found. Nor can John Mount. Nor can Charles Berg. Running out of options, I tried Charles Mount — and our German-born shoemaker was back. But, shockingly, he was married to an Isabella! Yet Rose Ann and John had not disappeared. They were listed as members of Charles Mount's household. Bearing the surname White, they were identified as Charles' sister-in-law and nephew respectively.

Without even more research, we can only speculate about Isabella's fate and the subsequent realignment of families. But this is not a column about Charles, Isabella and Rose, nor is it a reconstruction of the events that roiled their families in the mid-nineteenth century. It's a tale of research into the seemingly prosaic life of John Whatsit:

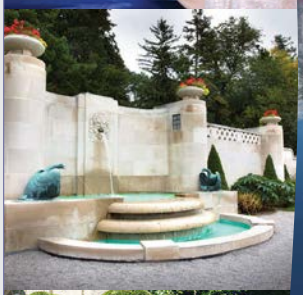
- As a young lad in 1861, he was enumerated as John White, nephew of Charles Berg;
- in 1871, he appeared on his second census as John Berg, son of Charles Berg;
- and in his twenties in 1881, he morphed into John Mount, son of widower Charles Mount, and so he would be known for the remainder of his days.

Three different surnames in the first three censuses of his life. The lessons here? In genealogy, you never know what you'll find if you keep digging, even in cases that seem straightforward. And don't believe anyone who tells you it will be a snap. Yes, the records were eventually found on Ancestry, a resource I would not want to be without. But they didn't magically appear after simply entering a few names, as in the commercials. You might as well have typed in "John Whatsit."

Paul Jones, a former publisher, is a writer, a consultant, and an avid genealogical researcher and volunteer.

Oxford Remembers
Oxford's Own
100 EVENTS
to commemorate the
100th Anniversary of
WW1
June 2014 - November 2018
Oxford County, Ontario
www.oxfordremembers.ca
519-842-2294

GRAND ESTATE GARDENS OF
Parkwood



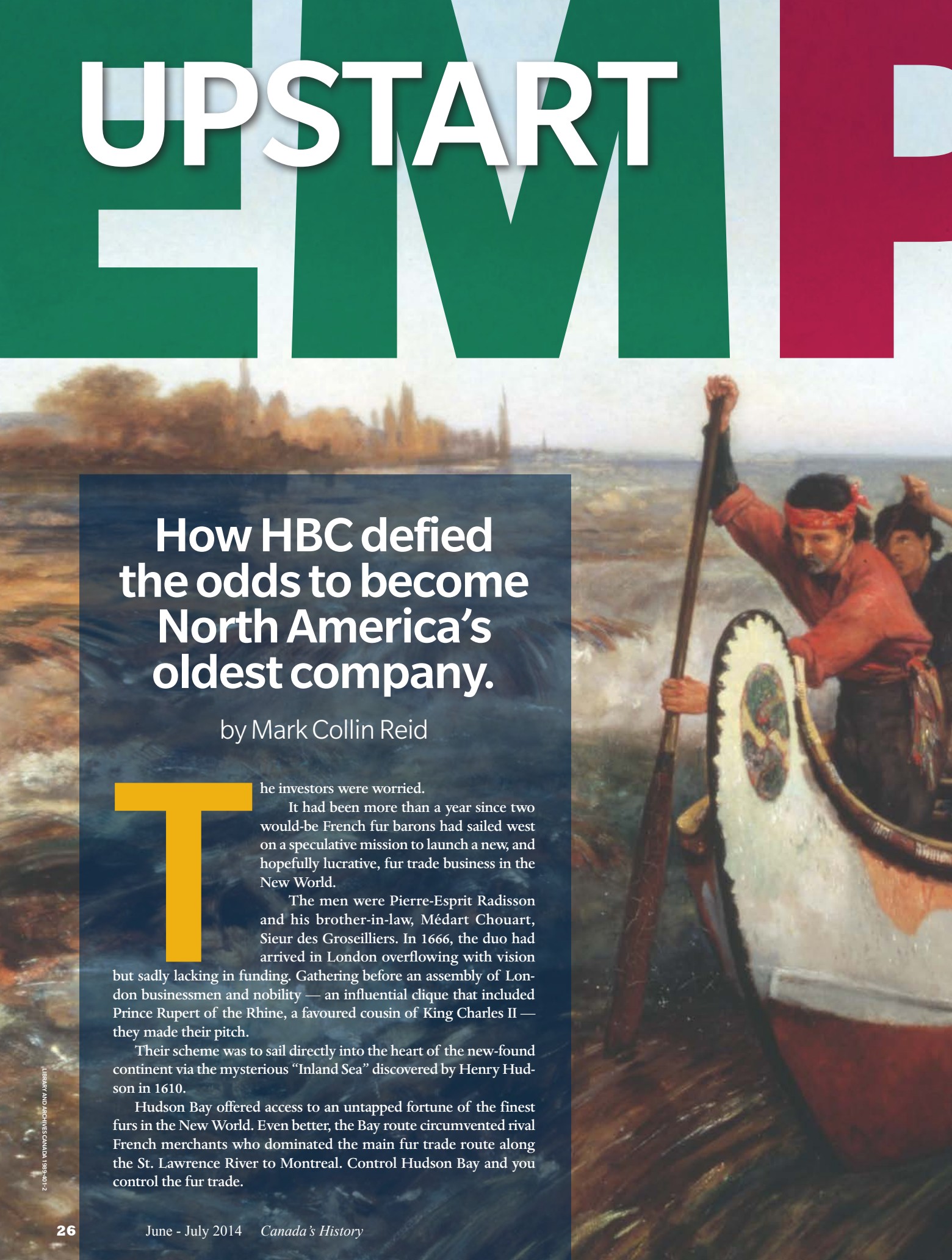
Let beauty and history envelop you in the lavish gardens of a Canadian Autobaron. Learn their Jazz-Age stories of grand design and garden party*, the horticultural traditions and toils of a large garden staff.
www.parkwoodestate.com 905.433.4311
270 Simcoe Street North Oshawa ON
*view historic home movies on YouTube: parkwoodestate
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Feature Garden on
VIA Rail Canada
CANADA'S GARDEN ROUTE
LA ROUTE DES JARDINS DU CANADA

"EXPLORE THE Wilde-est HOUSE IN CANADA."
A RESTORED MANSION INSPIRED BY OSCAR WILDE
ANNANDALE
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
WWW.DISCOVERTILLSONBURG.CA

Windsor's Community Museum
François Baby House National Historic Site of Canada
Current Exhibitions - Come and Visit - Free Admission!
• S.O.S. - Save Our Strait: A History of Restoring our River (opens June 1)
• Auld Lang Syne: Remembering Windsor/Essex Scottish Heritage
• Pontiac's War: Resistance in a Changing Frontier
• Hands-On History Room for Children of all Ages
• By the River's Edge: A History of Windsor
THE CITY OF WINDSOR ONTARIO, CANADA
(519) 253-1812 • 254 Pitt St. W.
www.windsormuseum.ca

UPSTART



How HBC defied the odds to become North America's oldest company.

by Mark Collin Reid

The investors were worried.

It had been more than a year since two would-be French fur barons had sailed west on a speculative mission to launch a new, and hopefully lucrative, fur trade business in the New World.

The men were Pierre-Esprit Radisson and his brother-in-law, Médart Chouart, Sieur des Groseilliers. In 1666, the duo had arrived in London overflowing with vision but sadly lacking in funding. Gathering before an assembly of London businessmen and nobility — an influential clique that included Prince Rupert of the Rhine, a favoured cousin of King Charles II — they made their pitch.

Their scheme was to sail directly into the heart of the new-found continent via the mysterious "Inland Sea" discovered by Henry Hudson in 1610.

Hudson Bay offered access to an untapped fortune of the finest furs in the New World. Even better, the Bay route circumvented rival French merchants who dominated the main fur trade route along the St. Lawrence River to Montreal. Control Hudson Bay and you control the fur trade.

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA 1989-401-2

Shooting the Rapids, by Frances Anne Hopkins, 1879.

For more about the history of Hudson's Bay Company, go to CanadasHistory.ca/HBC

"A more daring pair of international promoters cannot be found in the history of commerce," Douglas Mackay would later write in his 1936 book, *The Honourable Company: A History of the Hudson's Bay Company* — described by a contemporary reviewer as "a daring and heroic tale of the birth and growth of the Hudson's Bay Company, overflowing with zeal, bloodshed, and romance."

"Glib, plausible, ambitious, supported by unquestionable physical courage, they were completely equipped fortune hunters," Mackay wrote. "They knew more about fur trading than any men of their time."

Intrigued, the investors opened their purses, and on June 5, 1668, Radisson and des Groseilliers — known to the English financiers as "Mr. Radishes and Mr. Gooseberries" — sailed from London aboard two ketches. Just two months later, however, the *Eaglet*, carrying Radisson, limped into port at Plymouth. Heavy storms off Ireland had forced the two-masted ship to return home "with some losse." Of the second ship, the *Nonsuch*, there had been no word for more than sixteen months.

The financiers certainly had cause for concern. A gauntlet of dangers, including ocean squalls, crushing sea ice, scurvy, and other diseases stood between the *Nonsuch* and success. But, in the end, destiny sided with des Groseilliers.

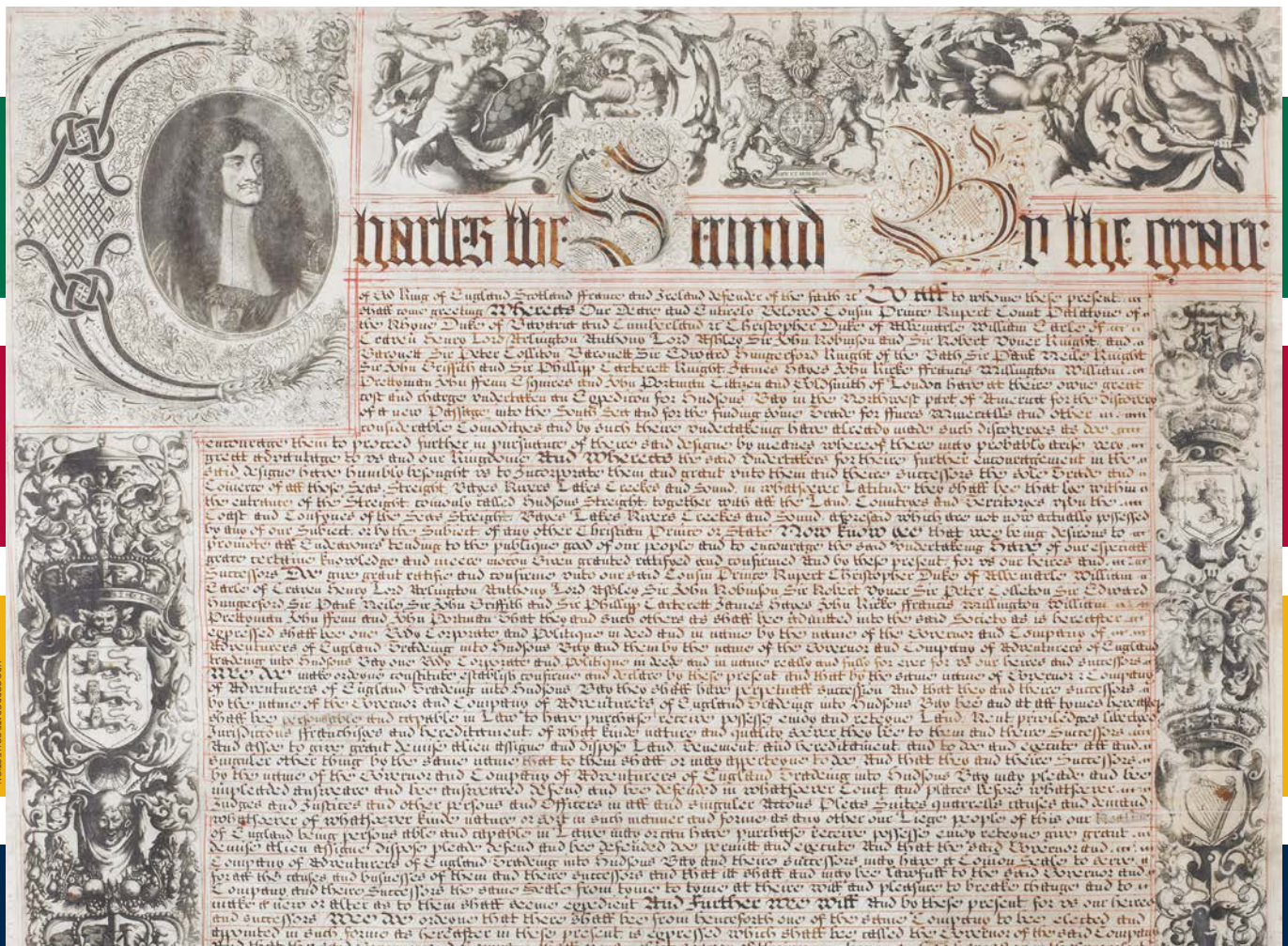
In October 1669, the *Nonsuch* was spied sailing up the Thames, heavy with pelts. "The lush furs caused a sensation," historian David Lavender wrote in 1970. The audacious scheme had worked — and, from this initial triumph, Hudson's Bay Company was born.

Granted a royal charter on May 2, 1670, "The Governor and Company of Adventurers of England" trading into Hudson Bay would go on to play a defining role in shaping North America, and particularly Canada. For the first two centuries of its existence, HBC reigned over an immense area stretching from the Arctic Circle to southern Minnesota, and from Alberta in the west to Quebec in the east.

The early HBC was an entrepreneurial empire built not on gold or precious stones, but on the public's demand for the pelts of a humble, hard-working rodent — the Canadian beaver.

"Seldom has an animal exercised such a profound influence on the history of a continent," Peter C. Newman wrote his 1985 chronicle of HBC, *Company of Adventurers*. "Men defied oceans and hacked their way across North America, armies and navies clashed under a polar moon … all in quest of the pug-nosed rodent with the lustrous fur. … Beaver became the breathing equivalent of gold."

If HBC's story begins with its efforts to win a trade monopoly in the New World, then its second chapter chronicles the often-bitter battle to protect it. Beginning in 1668, the company had set up a series of trading forts in James Bay, at the southern end of Hudson Bay: at Albany, on the western shore; at Moose Factory, to the south; and


Charles the Second by the grace

The royal charter of the Hudson's Bay Company, signed May 2, 1670. The charter gave the company a trade monopoly over the Hudson Bay watershed — about forty per cent of modern-day Canada.

HBC CORPORATE COLLECTION

HBC CORPORATE COLLECTION

at Charles Fort, where des Groseilliers had weathered the winter during his original expedition aboard the *Nonsuch*. Each new fort siphoned the flow of pelts away from Montreal, infuriating HBC's main competitor in the fur trade, the Compagnie du Nord.

"Because each post offered better blankets, hardware, and guns than did the French traders from Montreal, Indians flocked to them," Lavender, the historian, wrote in 1970. "Abruptly, the French awoke to the realization that thousands of pelts that would have worked their way through Aboriginal trade routes to the St. Lawrence were now being diverted to the Bay."

By 1686, the French had had enough; vowing to put an end to the HBC endeavour once and for all, the Compagnie du Nord financed a strike force to take the forts. Led by French army Captain Pierre de Troyes, Chevalier de Troyes, a force of one hundred *troupes de la marine* and Canadien militiamen paddled and portaged from Montreal to James Bay — an arduous three-month journey. They quickly captured Moose Factory and Charles Fort. At Albany, the attackers laid siege. Fearful of an onslaught from French cannons, the Bay men shortly surrendered.

The attacks sparked a period of turmoil for both sides, as the companies jockeyed for control of the fur trade. English and French traders marked the seasons by trading blows both on land and at

Above: ***R.M. Ballantyne, Clerk and Chief Trader George Barnston arrive at Tadoussac, 6 February 1846,*** **by Charles Fraser Comfort, 1941.**

Left: A round mark, or crest, from the cover of a 1791–92 account book at Albany Fort, the company's third fort on Hudson Bay.

This painting, *Nonsuch Returns to London, 1669*, by Norman Wilkinson, circa 1943, depicts the ship's successful arrival in England. The small, sturdy vessel wintered in James Bay in 1668-69, returning with high-quality beaver pelts that had been obtained in trade with the Cree.

HBC CORPORATE COLLECTION

NORMAN WILKINSON

sea. In 1693, HBC managed to retake Fort Albany. Four years later, a fleet of four French ships under Pierre Le Moyne, Sieur d'Iberville, defeated three HBC vessels on Hudson Bay. And so it went.

Hostilities paused after the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht, which saw all of the captured HBC forts returned to the company, only to renew with the 1756 outbreak of the Seven Years War. This conflict — the world's first global war, fought in Europe, North and South America, Africa, India, and the Caribbean — brought hard times to all parties in the fur trade. But, in 1763, Britain emerged victorious. With France relinquishing all claims to its former territory in Canada, HBC could at last get back to business.

For a while, HBC enjoyed the bounties that came with peacetime. Profits swelled, satisfying investors.

But, back in Quebec, a new threat was emerging.

In 1779, a group of Montreal businessmen — led largely by immigrant Scots — found a way to challenge HBC's monopoly. From the beginning, HBC's strategy was to build forts at the mouths of all major rivers leading into Hudson Bay, and to have their Aboriginal trading partners paddle to them with their furs. The forts, in essence, were a series of collection depots.

The Montrealers, who called themselves the North West Company, sensed opportunity. Let HBC huddle on the bay, they boasted. We'll send our Nor'Westers into the frontier to seek furs where they're found.

Soon, the NWC's banner was being carried to the farthest reaches of the continent. Men such as Simon Fraser, David Thompson, and Alexander Mackenzie redrew the maps of North America, becoming the first Europeans to cross the prairies, explore the Rockies, and reach the Pacific by land.

Indians with Pierre Esprit Radisson and Medard Chouart, Sieur des Groseilliers, Charles Fort, 1671, by George Lorne Holland Bouchard, circa 1968.

HBC CORPORATE COLLECTION

The Bay men and the Nor'Westers considered their options. With losses mounting on both sides, they agreed to merge under the Hudson's Bay Company banner. From the ashes of past conflicts emerged a newly invigorated company.

The fierce rivalry between the two companies inevitably led to bloodshed.

A series of escalating skirmishes in the early 1800s culminated in what is today known as the Battle of Seven Oaks. On June 19, 1816, sixty Métis aligned with the Nor'Westers engaged a group of twenty-four HBC men near the Red River Colony in modern-day Manitoba. The HBC force was almost annihilated, leading to acts of retaliation.

Back in England, the authorities were exasperated. The escalating cycle of violence was bad for business — everyone's business.

In 1821, a possible solution was proposed. In exchange for settling their differences, the British government offered the companies a new, exclusive trading licence for the territories outside of Rupert's Land. The Bay men and the Nor'Westers considered their options. With losses mounting on both sides, they agreed to merge under the banner of Hudson's Bay Company. From the ashes of past conflicts emerged a newly invigorated company.

Following the merger, HBC enjoyed a long period of growth, thanks largely to the efforts of its then-governor-in-chief, Sir George Simpson.

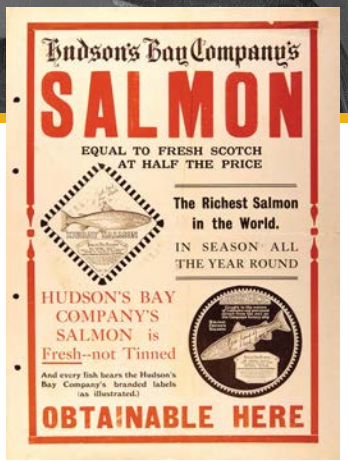
By the 1850s, the company had spread throughout the northwest, with forts and trading posts dotting the landscape from Yukon to the Oregon Country.

But, with the dawn of the 1860s, the company felt increasing pressure to relinquish Rupert's Land. In the United States, politicians spoke of Manifest Destiny and the dream of an America that stretched uninterrupted from Texas to Alaska. Meanwhile, in the British half of North America, the Province of Canada (modern-day Ontario

Calgary's first Hudson's Bay Company retail store, built in 1884.

HBC ARCHIVES, ARCHIVES OF MANITOBA/HBCA 1987/363-C-21/2

HBC CORPORATE COLLECTION


Hudson's Bay Company's
SALMON
EQUAL TO FRESH SCOTCH AT HALF THE PRICE
The Richest Salmon in the World.
IN SEASON ALL THE YEAR ROUND
HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY'S SALMON is Fresh--not Tinned
OBTAINABLE HERE

HBC ARCHIVES, ARCHIVES OF MANITOBA: HBCA A.95/85 F.O. 133

HBC CORPORATE COLLECTION

Top: A Bay delivery van and driver, circa 1965.

Above: A 1931 HBC ad for salmon and a 1922 *Beaver* magazine cover featuring stores across Canada.

and Quebec) and the colonies of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were contemplating union, culminating in the creation of the Dominion of Canada in 1867. Moreover, Britain increasingly wanted out of colonial commitments in North America.

The ink was still wet on the British North America Act when Canadian politicians began advocating the annexation of Rupert's Land. "If we don't expand, we must contract," William McDougall, a Father of Confederation, declared to the House of Commons in December 1867.

Back in London, it was clear to HBC investors that the company could not retain Rupert's Land forever. And so, after a period of negotiation, HBC in November 1869 signed a deed of surrender, a decision that instantly transformed the very nature of its operations.

In return for Rupert's Land, HBC received compensation from Canada to the tune of £300,000, along with one twentieth of all the land in the fertile belt stretching from Lake of the Woods in modern-day northwestern Ontario to the Rocky Mountains in Alberta, and from the forty-ninth parallel to the North Saskatchewan River, as well as an additional twenty thousand hectares of land surrounding HBC's trading posts.

The timing was perfect, for the fur trade was about to begin its long decline. As immigrants poured into Canada, it was land they craved, not felt hats. A new business model came into focus, based on supplying these new Canadians with the goods and implements they needed to carve communities out of the wilderness. The company began converting its trading posts into retail stores. Meanwhile, it created a land department to organize the surveying and sale of the roughly 2.8 million hectares of land it had acquired through the deed of surrender. Immigrants clamoured to purchase HBC land in what the Canadian government advertised as the "Last, Best West."

Meanwhile, former trading posts became retail centres of community life, offering residents everything from coffee to canned salmon. Beginning in 1913, the company opened the first of six new flagship department stores in Calgary, soon to be followed by Edmonton, Victoria, Vancouver, Saskatoon, and Winnipeg.

In the mid-1920s, the company ramped up its non-retail interests, moving into oil and gas exploration while expanding its retail operations. The 1930s saw the company undergo a modernization drive; airplanes and icebreakers replaced dogsleds and York boats as its main modes of transportation. HBC closed its land department in 1961.

The postwar prosperity of the 1950s heralded the age of consumer culture. Over the next two decades, HBC embarked on a wave of expansion, acquiring several long-established retail operations, including Henry Morgan & Co. Ltd., A.J. Freiman, Ltd., Zellers, Fields, and Simpsons. As a result of these acquisitions, HBC finally arrived as a retailer in the central Canadian heartland.

Further changes soon followed. In 1965, HBC introduced a new brand identity and name, The Bay, to its retail stores. In 1974, the company's head office relocated from Winnipeg to Toronto.

The recession of the 1980s prompted HBC to refocus its efforts on its core business and divest itself of several ancillary operations, including its oil and gas division, its catalogue chain, and its northern stores division. And in 1987 the company stopped acquiring pelts, effectively ending its participation in the fur trade.

The story of Hudson's Bay Company mirrors the story of the growth of North America. Yet much of HBC's history remained a secret. Year after year, meticulous

records were kept of all aspects of HBC business — from the quality and quantity of pelts, to profits and dividends, to the individual memoirs and diaries of Bay explorers and traders — only to be filed away in the company's vaults.

That all changed in 1920.

To toast its 250th birthday, the company founded a new magazine for its staff, titled *The Beaver: A Journal of Progress*. That magazine continues to be published today under the name *Canada's History*.

HBC also decided that it was high time it opened its archives to outsiders. Declaring that the company had "a duty to make our information available to the people of Canada," HBC's head office in London began the painstaking process of arranging and describing its records for public access.

In 1928, then-HBC governor Charles Vincent Sale created a new archives department, telling shareholders, "We have, as you probably know, an immense collection of records relating to the earliest days of our history; to the wars and fighting; to the explorations by land and sea; to the customs and life of the Indians and Eskimo; to the struggle for the occupation of the Pacific Coast; to the peaceful retention of the Great West; and finally, to the general conduct of the Company and its affairs during the two centuries in which it was responsible for the government of the territory of Rupert's Land."

Three years later, the archives opened to the public, giving historians a wealth of new information about the development of both the company and the country.

In 1974, the company deposited its records, previously located in London, with the Archives of Manitoba. (They were opened to the public the next year). And in 1994 the company went a step further by formally donating its archival material to the Manitoba Archives and its vast collection of museum artifacts to the Manitoba Museum.

With a combined value of more than $68 million, the double donation was praised by then-Manitoba Premier Gary Filmon as "an unprecedented act of corporate social responsibility and generosity."

HBC took the tax savings realized in the donations and used it to create a new philanthropic arm, called the Hudson's Bay Company History Foundation, which continues to provide financial support for both of these collections.

Today, the Hudson's Bay Company Archives is counted among the heritage treasures of the world. It is even part of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) "Memory of the World" collection, which places it in the company of such priceless artifacts as the Magna Carta and the Bayeux Tapestry.

No doubt the original Company of Adventurers would have been pleased.

The Hudson's Bay Company's department store in downtown Vancouver, 2012.

HBC CORPORATE COLLECTION

The Bugler **by Paul Wickson, 1901, likely depicts Edwin McCormick, a Canadian bugler during the Boer War.**

CANADIAN ANGLO-BOER WAR MUSEUM

LAST POST

No longer relevant in battle, the bugle still holds a place in Canada's military tradition. But for how long?

by Lyndsie Bourgon

Every year, on June 6, a dwindling group of veterans meets before sunrise at the Moss Park Armoury in Toronto. The group of about twenty comes armed — not for battle but for music, with trumpets and bugles. "Last Post" and "The Rouse" echo out to commemorate D-Day, as well as a dying tradition.

The Moss Park Armoury is the regimental headquarters of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada. Its Regimental Band and Bugles, formed in 1860, is the oldest continually serving militia band in Canada.

Bugle calls were once an essential military duty. Buglers rose before the sun, waking up the troops, sending them to meals, alerting them to meetings and events, and calling out manoeuvres on the battlefield. The calls kept troops on time and men in order — and also raised their spirits.

"Sometimes, when they hear the call, even the veterans stand up straighter, and they seem to have more energy," said Allen Day, a master seaman who plays bugle with the Canadian navy. He and his father, Bob Day, both have a strong interest in bugle and military band history. Bob hangs out at the bugle mess of the Moss Park Armoury and participates in an annual buglers reunion at the mess.

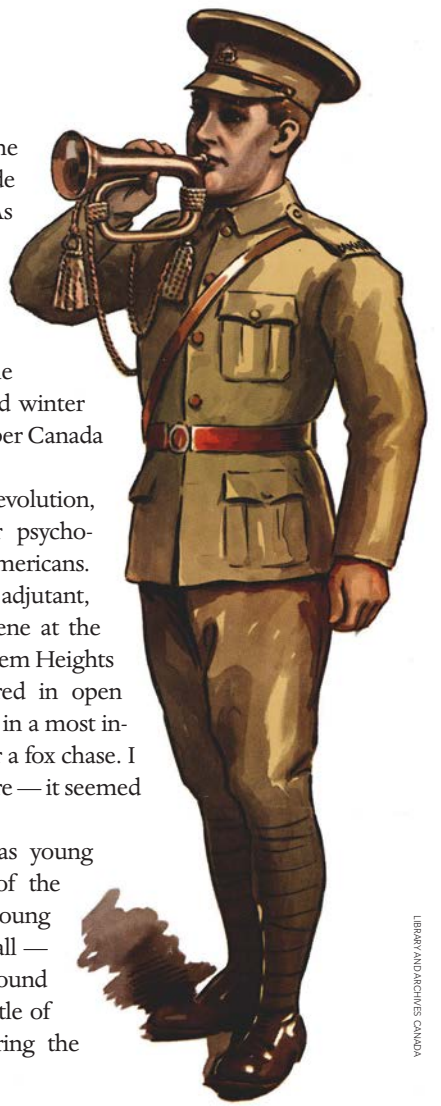
Allen became a bugler through Cadets Canada, which provides musical training to youngsters from ages thirteen to sixteen. About three years after joining, he took a trip to England and France with the Queen's Own Rifles. "After that trip, that was it — bugling all the way."

Bugling has a storied tradition in the military.

During the War of 1812, the forces on the British side made extensive use of buglers. As Lieutenant John Le Couteur of the 104th Regiment recalled, "our buglers struck up the merry air, 'The girls we leave behind us,'" as the troops began the long and cold winter march from Fredericton to Upper Canada in 1813.

During the American Revolution, British bugles were used for psychological advantage over the Americans. General George Washington's adjutant, Joseph Reed, described the scene at the beginning of the Battle of Harlem Heights in 1776: "The enemy appeared in open view, and sounded their bugles in a most insulting manner, as is usual after a fox chase. I never felt such a sensation before — it seemed to crown our disgrace."

Buglers were often boys as young as twelve. Douglas Williams of the Queen's Own Rifles was a young teenager — and just five feet tall — when he blew the bugle to sound the charge during the 1900 Battle of Paardeberg, South Africa, during the



LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

To hear bugle calls and view a video about the history of Taps, go to CanadasHistory.ca/Bugles

Boer War.

Williams later recalled: "Four times I did it, and the last time we were moving forward so rapidly that I was stumbling as I pumped out the notes."

Buglers haven't been used extensively in combat since the Boer War. By the time of the First World War, the call of the bugle could scarcely be heard over heavy artillery bombardments — combat had simply become too loud. But cavalry units — themselves obsolete by this time — still employed buglers to sound orders to charge and retreat. In the heroic charge of the Canadian Cavalry Brigade at Moreuil Wood, France, on March 30, 1918, the bugle call to announce the charge was reportedly silenced by German fire before it was even sounded.

We were only concerned with one thing: We were bugling, and we liked it.

Today, bugle calls have been relegated to ceremonial obligations, especially Remembrance Day ceremonies and funerals. In Afghanistan, bagpipers accompanied Canada's fallen soldiers as they were lifted out of Kandahar Airfield — but buglers or trumpeters were not always available. The changing of the guard still takes place on Parliament Hill to the accompaniment of bugles, an event with much ceremony and pomp. To many, that is what bugles have become — simply pomp.

"Over time, a lot of people would maybe roll their eyes and think, why are we still doing this?" said Master Corporal David Rennie, a drummer and bugler in the Governor General's Foot Guards in Ottawa. Rennie spent twenty years as a drummer in the British Army before moving to Canada in 1994. He has held a full-time position with the Foot Guards for more than eight years.

The military band tradition took two big hits after the Second World War due to armed forces unification in the 1960s and funding cuts in the 1990s. Until 1994, there were nine permanent forces bands. The number was cut to four bands, and then boosted back up to six.

Today, each branch of the armed forces has two full-time bands. There are also fifty-three part-time reserve force bands and fifteen voluntary bands. Of the 240 full-time musicians in the Canadian Forces, only thirty are trumpet and bugle players.

"I think it's dying out because of email and BlackBerrys," said Rennie, referring to the fact that soldiers rely more on personal communication devices to stay on schedule. "Gone are the days when they had to [employ buglers]."

In the United Kingdom, each regiment has its own band, and each band is inextricably linked to its regimental history. In Canada, full-time military bands are a "purple trade" — meaning that musicians can move from one branch to another, from navy, to army, to air force. (The term purple trade comes from the notion that mixing the tan, green, blue, and white uniform colours of the different forces will yield a purple shade.) Some believe that, under these circumstances, musicians don't develop the esprit de corps that is essential to military life — they are on the outside, playing for those on the inside. Thus, the musical tradition is easy to forget and to shrug off.

"The Canadian Forces as an entity is very focused on the future and is driven by the government of the day," said Rennie. "Sometimes change is good, but change can be drastic as well."

Change is something Ron Beal has seen a lot of. He's now ninety-three years old, but Beal remembers being a twelve-year-old in 1933, heading to Toronto's Canadian

The bugle band of the Royal Canadian Regiment parades through the liberated city of Apeldoorn, Netherlands, April 18, 1945.

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

National Exhibition grounds very early in the morning. "There were two regiments billeted in the grounds, and I would hear the buglers blowing the calls. I think that was the inspiration for me," Beal said in a 2011 interview from his room in the veterans centre of Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto.

At fourteen, Beal joined the Royal Grenadiers bugle band, with his parents' permission. Beal remembers the outfit most — scarlet uniform, white belt, bearskin hat. "I thought I was something," he said. "We were just kids, we didn't know what we were doing. We were only concerned with one thing: We were bugling, and we liked it."

When the Second World War broke out, Beal signed on with the Royal Regiment of Canada, which had absorbed the Royal Grenadiers. Like the other bugle players, he became a stretcher-bearer first, then a rifleman who fought during the Dieppe Raid in 1942. He was captured at Dieppe and spent the rest of the war as a prisoner of the Germans.

After the war, Beal joined the Queen's Own Rifles, because they had plans to maintain their bugle band. He last played the bugle in 1956, when he retired from the military and entered civilian life. He thinks today's military is missing some of its glamour.

"It's alright to be efficient and so on," he said. "But there has to be some glamour to it. All it is now is just drills and nothing. When it's lunchtime, you look at your watch and you go to lunch. You don't hear any calls."

The regular forces no longer provide musical training to new recruits. Today, those who become full-time musicians with the forces have at least a bachelor's degree in musical performance. Captain Fraser Clark, an advisor to the military's supervisor of music, said the toughest challenge facing military music is too much work for too few people. They'd love to play veterans' funerals, for instance, but those often come up against other priorities.

Buglers are also in short supply across the border. While all eligible American veterans are entitled, by law, to a free military funeral, complete with "Taps," the reality is that there are too few buglers in the United States Armed Forces to meet the demand.

For a while, the American military was taking boom boxes to funerals to provide the required music. This proved unpopular. The Americans have since developed an electronic playing device that is placed inside a bugle horn. The "musician" simply presses a button and simulates a flawless performance.

"It's the closest and next best thing to the real thing," Mark Maynard, director of the Riverside National Cemetery in California, said when the devices were introduced ten years ago. "A bone of contention with veterans organizations and families was just the sound and tackiness of the military carrying boom boxes to play 'Taps.'" With the digital bugle, Maynard said, "you're guaranteed of it being played perfectly every time."

Lieutenant Colonel Scott Attridge, supervisor of music for the Canadian Forces Music Branch, says Canada is not likely to go that route. "No matter how deep the cuts go, you're still going to have buglers and pipers," said Attridge.

CANADIAN MUSEUM OF HISTORY

Left: A First World War bugle that belonged to the 234th Canadian Infantry Battalion.

Below: An American soldier simulates playing a bugle fitted with an electronic playing device.

U.S. AIR FORCE/MARGO WRIGHT

Gerda Munsinger, age thirty-six, relaxes at her home in Munich, West Germany, on March 15, 1966, days after the scandal related to her liasons with federal Cabinet ministers broke out.

The Munsinger Affair

The woman behind Canada's first national political sex scandal.

by Allan Levine

Lucien Cardin, the Liberal minister of justice, was in a foul mood on March 4, 1966. Like most members of Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson's Liberal Cabinet that spring, Cardin was feeling the pressure of being in a minority government rocked by scandal. For weeks, the Opposition had been accusing him of trampling on the civil rights of a Vancouver postal clerk who was suspected of spying.

Finally, following yet another tongue-lashing by John Diefenbaker, Cardin snapped back that the Conservative leader should not be lecturing anyone about dealing with security issues —"and I'm not kidding," he added.

"I want that on the record," retorted Diefenbaker.

"I understand the right honourable gentleman said he wants that on the record. Would he want me to go on and give more?" asked Cardin.

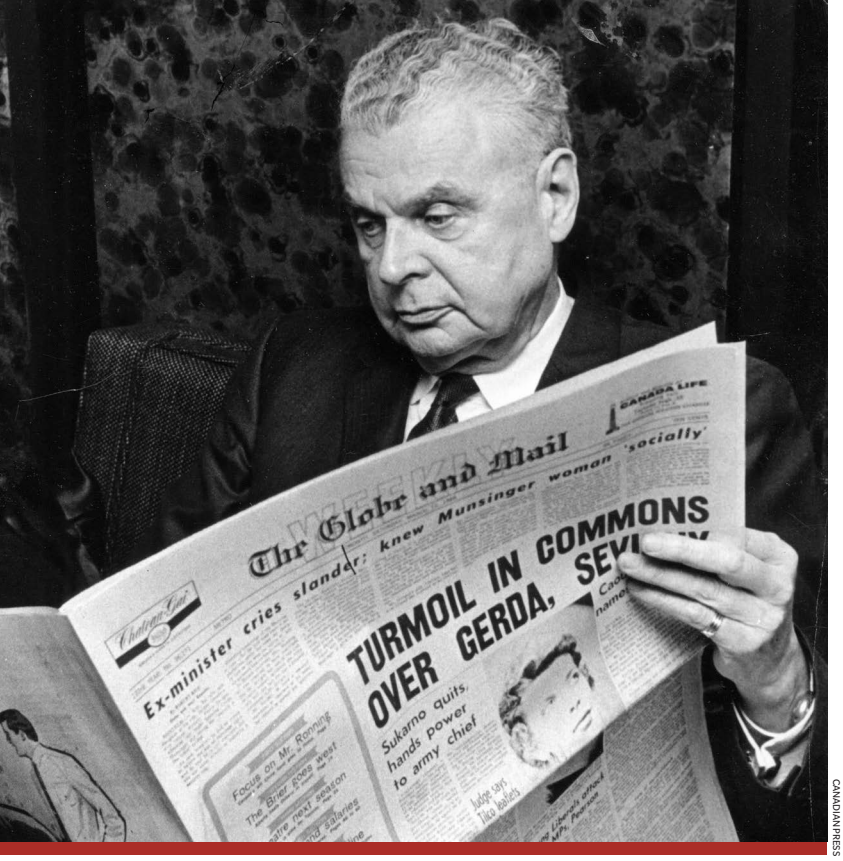
Some of the members shouted their approval.

"Very well," Cardin continued. "I want the right honourable gentleman to tell this house about his participation in the Monseignor case when he was prime minister of the country."

Reporters in the press gallery immediately perked up. They wondered: Who or what was "Monseignor"? And so began the unveiling of one of the most notorious political sex scandals in Canada's history.

At a press conference a week later, Cardin explained that he had been referring to a German woman named "Olga Munsinger," who purportedly had relationships with two Cabinet ministers in the Diefenbaker government.

CANADIAN PRESS


The Globe and Mail
Ex-minister cries slander; knew Munsinger woman 'socially'
TURMOIL IN COMMONS OVER GERDA, SEV
Sukarno quits, hands power to army chief

CANADIAN PRESS

Above: Former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker reads a March 12, 1966, newspaper headlining the Munsinger scandal involving ministers in his Conservative government in 1959–60.

CANADIAN PRESS

Below: Liberal Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson.

He further claimed that Munsinger had lived in Montreal but had returned to Germany. He believed she had died of leukemia.

Cardin's facts were somewhat off. The woman's name was actually Gerda Munsinger — and she was very much alive. Overnight, owing to Cardin's unguarded innuendo, Munsinger became the central figure in a salacious political scandal.

Watch a video at CanadasHistory.ca/Munsinger

Who was Gerda Munsinger? And why was she cast as the "blond playgirl" (to use Knowlton Nash of the CBC's description of her) and alleged Communist spy in newspaper headlines for much of 1966 in a case that embarrassed the Conservatives and showed the extent of Liberal desperation?

Gerda Heseler was born in 1929 in Königsberg, East Prussia (now Kaliningrad, Russia). There is little information about how Heseler and her family survived the war. RCMP believed her father was a Communist and was murdered by the Nazis in 1943. At sixteen, Gerda Heseler was separated from her mother and sister and was living in East Berlin. "With my figure, I was well-built, long, blond pigtails, and you know what was going on there," she said not-so-cryptically to Norman Depoe of CBC News in a March 1966 interview. "[Soviet soldiers] did to me what they felt like it for two years."

She became acquainted with a Soviet officer, possibly an agent of the Soviet secret police, the NKVD (later the KGB), who coerced her to commit theft, steal transit passes and currency, and, likely, engage in prostitution. Caught by the American West German border police, she was accused of espionage, a charge that was to haunt her for years. She escaped from the East German zone in the early 1950s. Alone and stateless, she did what she had to do to survive.

Her luck changed when she met Mike Munsinger, an American soldier and minor league baseball player. Munsinger was discharged from the army in 1953 and returned to the United States. He came back to Germany, and the couple married. He then left for the U.S. again, thinking that he could expedite his wife's emigration. However, when she tried to join him, she was refused because of "moral turpitude" and counter-intelligence reports that she was a "security risk." She had also applied to come to Canada, yet she was denied on the same grounds, despite a report sent to the RCMP by German authorities doubting that Gerda Heseler had ever been involved in espionage.

Mike and Gerda annulled their marriage in 1954, determining that it would have little chance of succeeding if they could not live together in the United States. He became a policeman in Brooklyn, New York, and she found work in American-owned hotels in Germany. Now using the name Munsinger, she again applied for a visa to Canada and was successful. She arrived in Montreal in the summer of 1955 and found work as a maid.

But, ambitious and craving the good life, Munsinger had other ideas. She moved on to a job as a waitress at a St. Catherine Street eatery and then decided to become a model. She posed for a racy weekly, *Midnight*, which helped her land other modelling work. She was soon frequenting Montreal's chic clubs and jazz joints like Chez Parée and El Morocco. Her closest companion was Jacqueline "The Duchess" Delorme, a socialite who was popular among business and fashion executives. Munsinger's friendship with Delorme proved propitious and gained her entrance into the city's high society.

Montreal in the mid-1950s was still regarded as the "Paris of North America" and had a style that was cool and glamorous. The wealthy and politically connected, whether they were English or French, preferred the discreet confines of the La Reserve dinner club at the Windsor Hotel or the cocktail lounge at the Sheraton Mount Royal Hotel.

In late August 1959, at a social encounter at the Mount Royal, Pierre Sévigny, the debonair, married, and recently appointed associate minister of national defence in the Diefenbaker government, was introduced to thirty-year-old Gerda Munsinger. He was immediately smitten with her.

Sévigny came from a distinguished Quebec family. His father was Albert Sévigny, a member of Robert Borden's Cabinet during the First World War. Pierre himself was a decorated war hero. He had fought in the Battle of the Falaise Gap in August 1944 and lost a leg when he was injured some months later during the Battle of the Rhine. By the time he left the service, he had reached the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Twelve years Munsinger's senior (she called him "Daddy") Sévigny began an affair. The couple regularly dined at the Mount Royal and the more elegant La Reserve. In those days, a man, even a Cabinet minister with

a high profile, could get away with such public indiscretions. Still, when Sévigny learned that Munsinger was talking too publicly about their relationship, he gradually ended it. By the fall of 1960, it was over.

In late November 1964, Pearson asked the RCMP to forward him all files related to MPs since the mid-fifties — a request unprecedented in Canadian political history.

During this period, Munsinger sometimes showed up in Ottawa. On one visit in the fall of 1959, she was dining by herself at the Chateau Laurier Hotel and met George Hees, Diefenbaker's "flashy and good-looking" minister of transport, as one journalist later described him. The two had been introduced some months earlier at a banquet in Montreal. "He examined me the way a man musters a woman when he is already sure of his prey," remembered Munsinger. A few more lunches followed, but Hees always insisted that his relationship with her was "casual" and that nothing inappropriate occurred — an interpretation accepted by the official inquiry into the scandal. Comments Munsinger made in subsequent interviews, however, suggest that a brief affair ensued. Hees also may have promised her a future job as a secretary at the Canadian Embassy in Bonn, West Germany.

In retrospect, Munsinger's error was applying for Canadian citizenship and using Sévigny as a reference. It was equally a mistake for Sévigny to have had his assistant write a letter supporting Munsinger's application. That led to an RCMP investigation of her background, the tapping of her phone, and the use of a hidden infrared camera in her apartment. Her secrets were laid bare: The Mounties discovered her past associations with the Soviets — as tenuous as those were — her affair with Sévigny, and her contact with Hees. In December 1960, the RCMP commissoner, Clifford Harvison, sent this information to Justice Minister Davie Fulton, who quickly apprised Diefenbaker of a possible security breach.

Diefenbaker was aghast at Sévigny's transgression. "My God! This is terrible!" he said to Fulton. The prime minister immediately ordered Sévigny to his office and then proceeded to lecture him for his lack of judgment and "for consorting with a woman of loose character." However, assured that there had been no damage to Canadian security — "I never gave a state secret away," declared Sévigny — Diefenbaker allowed Sévigny to retain his Cabinet post in the defence department. Moreover, the RCMP investigation never proved whether Munsinger was a spy. George Hees was not then advised about the RCMP report, presumably because Diefenbaker and Fulton believed he was only guilty of poor judgment, rather than any moral indiscretion. That should have been the end of this private matter.

Munsinger did not do well following her breakup with Sévigny. She suffered from serious health problems, and her doctors believed, incorrectly, that she had leukemia. Her financial situation was dismal, and the RCMP asserted that she was involved with prostitution and criminals. This included a notorious Montreal mobster named Willie Obront, who helped her return to Germany in February 1961 after she was denied Canadian citizenship. Sévigny may have arranged for $500 to be left for her once she arrived in Munich. Rumours later circulated that she had died.

Meanwhile, there were changes in government. Lester B. Pearson's Liberals defeated Diefenbaker's Conservatives by a slender majority in April of 1963. Pearson was only a year into his mandate when he was rocked by successive scandals.

One involved Hal Banks, an American union leader with links to the mob who fled to the U.S. after he was implicated in an assault on another union leader. Another concerned the actions of Justice Minister Guy Favreau, who had bungled the case of Montreal drug dealer Lucien Rivard, who was linked to a few Quebec Liberals. The Rivard fiasco forced Favreau to resign. Pearson chose Cardin, a feisty Quebec Liberal, to replace Favreau.

Anxious to draw attention away from these fiascos, Pearson began searching for dirt on the Conservatives. (In his memoirs, Pearson claimed he was merely trying to determine "the alleged pressures on members of Parliament by criminals.") In late November 1964, he asked the RCMP commissioner to forward him all files the force had accumulated related to members of Parliament since the mid-fifties. Such a request was unprecedented in Canadian political history.

Within the mass of paper Pearson received in early December was a dossier suggesting "a breach of national security," as Pearson later told journalist Bruce Hutchison. The suspected breach took on added significance in light of a sensational scandal in Britain a year earlier involving John

MCCORD MUSEUM

The Mount Royal Hotel, shown here in 1923, was where Pierre Sévigny, the married associate minister of national defence in the Diefenbaker government, first met Gerda Munsinger in August 1959. They began an affair that lasted several months.

Profumo, the secretary of state for war. Profumo had been forced to resign from Prime Minister Harold Macmillan's Cabinet and from politics following revelations about his affair with twenty-one-year-old "good time girl" Christine Keeler. At the time, she was also bedding Yvgeni Ivanov, a Russian naval attaché based in London.

The British and Canadian sexual episodes were different — for one thing, Profumo at first lied about his relationship with Keeler, while Sévigny never did. However, soon after Pearson had seen the file, he wrote to Diefenbaker about his "very grave concern" about the Munsinger case. A week later, the two leaders met privately to discuss the matter. In a tense encounter, Diefenbaker told Pearson that he had spoken to Sévigny about the matter and was certain that that no security breach had occurred.

Moreover, Diefenbaker suggested that he had knowledge of Pearson's supposed involvement with confessed American spy Elizabeth Bentley when Pearson worked at the Canadian Embassy in Washington in the 1940s. The accusation was nonsense, yet that did not stop the Chief from waving it in Pearson's face. The meeting between the two leaders ended acrimoniously with each threatening the other with secrets of scandal.

Pearson later wrote in his diary expressing incredulity that Diefenbaker had not removed Sévigny from his Cabinet post after learning of the affair: "I shudder to think what he [Diefenbaker] would have done to a Liberal PM who kept a defence minister on the job in these circumstances."

Cardin, in his capacity as associate minister of defence, learned the details of Sévigny's interaction with Munsinger soon after Pearson did. He saw it as powerful ammunition to be used against Diefenbaker. Cardin's reference to the "Monseignor case" on March 4 was the opening salvo in the scandal. Once started, it took on a life of its own.

Without clearing it with Pearson, Cardin gave media interviews in which he stated that he considered Munsinger (whom he still called Olga) "a security risk," adding that this case was "worse" than the Profumo scandal. He followed on March 10 with a wide-ranging press conference about sex and security in which he said, among other things, that Munsinger had died in Germany from leukemia.

Editors at the *Toronto Star* thought otherwise. Martin Goodman, the *Star*'s bureau chief in Ottawa, had heard stories about Sévigny and "a mysterious blond" for several

CBC television correspondent Norman Depoe interviews Gerda Munsinger in Munich on March 15, 1966.

TORONTO STAR/GETSTOCK

years. The newspaper's resourceful reporter Robert Reguly took a flight to Germany and easily found Munsinger living in Munich and working as a waitress at a bar. "I suppose you want to ask me about Sévigny," she said to him. But she also admitted to being frightened and told Reguly that she thought he had been sent by Willie Obront to kill her.

Thereafter, Gerda and her liaison with Sévigny became the number one news story in Canada for several months. Needless to say Sévigny, was furious. With his wife, Corrine, and daughter, Pierrette, by his side, he told reporters that Cardin was "a cheap, despicable little man" and suggested he should resign from Cabinet. Some weeks later, when Larry Zolf, one of the hosts of the CBC's *This Hour Has Seven Days*, attempted to interview Sévigny at his home in Montreal, he beat Zolf with his cane. The segment never aired. *Maclean's* magazine held a limerick contest about the affair, and the winning entry by Gil Purcell of The Canadian Press was as follows:

There was a young lady from Munich
Whose bosom distended her tunic
Her main undertaking
Was Cabinet making
In fashions bilingue et unique.

The American media, showing a rare interest in Canada, could not write enough about the story. Boring Canada had now become, as one *New York Herald Tribune* headline put it, "Canada: Smear, Slander, Smut."

Bowing to pressure, Pearson concluded that a judicial inquiry was needed to clear the air, yet it was difficult to disguise the fact that the investigation's real intent was to go after Diefenbaker. To head the inquiry, Pearson chose Supreme Court Judge Wishart Spence, whom he had appointed to the bench in 1963. As such, he "was widely viewed as a Liberal," as Pearson's biographer John English points out.

Two months of public hearings gave the Munsinger affair even more publicity and notoriety. "Mrs. Munsinger was never my mistress," an angry Sévigny testified. "She was certainly not the despicable person she has been represented to be in recent weeks. She was very charming, very lovely, she dressed well."

Unsubstantiated allegations from the RCMP suggested Munsinger was indeed a spy and that Sévigny had compromised Canadian security à la John Profumo. Gerda was transformed into the "Mata Hari of the Cold War." Yet, as Munsinger countered soon after the inquiry began: "If I was a spy would I be working for a living?" In subsequent interviews, she denied being "connected with espionage in East or West Germany." On the contrary, she stated, "the Russians ruined my life."

Judge Spence had a different view. His controversial report was released at the end of September 1966. He determined that Sévigny's conduct was less than stellar; that his relationship with Munsinger had posed a security risk; and that he should have resigned from Cabinet. Spence deemed, too, that Diefenbaker "did not seem to appreciate the continuing security risk posed by his retention of the Honourable Pierre Sévigny in his then Cabinet post or any Cabinet post." In short, though there was no evidence of any security breach, Diefenbaker should have dismissed Sévigny when he learned of the affair. George Hees got slapped on the wrist for a "regrettable" lack of "discretion." And, predictably, Spence found nothing inappropriate with the actions of Pearson and Cardin.

CANADIAN PRESS

Cabinet minister Pierre Sévigny with his wife Corinne and daughter Pierrette at a press conference in Montreal on March 12, 1966, shortly after the Munsinger scandal broke.

From start to finish, the Munsinger scandal reeked of poor judgment and political partisanship. "It is now apparent," wrote George Bain in his *Globe and Mail* column at the end of April 1966, "that for sixteen months the government had stood with the Munsinger case held like a pail of slops over the heads of its chief political opponents." Indeed, this was not Pearson's or Diefenbaker's finest hour.

Any notion that Canadian politics was clean and above reproach was put to rest by the tale of Gerda Munsinger. She eventually remarried (twice) and lived in Munich until her death in 1998. The affair also hastened the replacement of Diefenbaker as the Progressive Conservative Party leader in 1967 and the retirement of Lester Pearson as Liberal leader a year later.

Pierre Sévigny, the man at the focus of the scandal, remained unrepentant. His wife seemingly forgave him for his dalliance with Munsinger. Out of politics, he wrote several books and taught at Concordia University. Asked in 1979 about the affair, he said, "It was a frame-up to get at Diefenbaker. It was a political plot. I should have ignored it. Instead of keeping quiet, I protested. The more I protested, the more I drew attention to me, the more I amplified [its] importance.… I only made it worse for myself."

Yet, despite the toll his actions took on his wife and marriage, he was proud of his sexual conquest and remained so until he died in 2004 at the age of eighty-six. "The sex stories never bothered me," he said in the 1979 interview with the *Globe and Mail*. "A guy like me when he sees a beautiful woman … it's over. I challenge any man not to have done the same."

Munsinger had a similar view. In a 1966 interview with the *New York Times*, she stated, "I knew Pierre as a man. He knew me as a woman. That's all there was to it."

Battle of Lundy's Lane by C.W. Jefferys.

COURTESY OF DONALD E. GRAVES

THE BATTLE OF LUNDY'S LANE

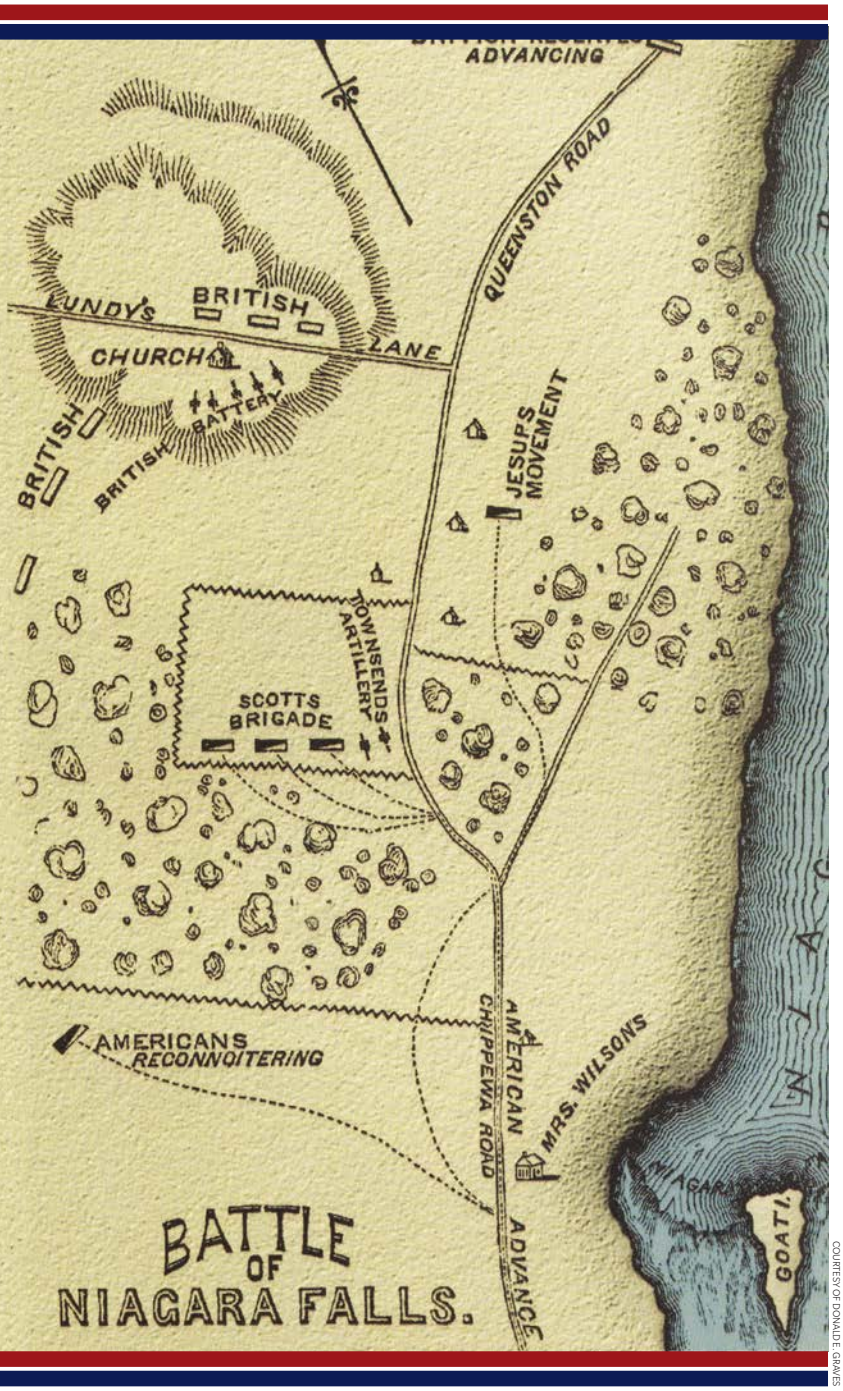
The seventh — and last — invasion of Canada was marked by the fiercest fighting of the War of 1812.

by Donald E. Graves

Most visitors to Niagara Falls, Ontario, know Lundy's Lane as a busy urban thoroughfare leading to one of the world's most famous natural wonders. But, two hundred years ago, it was the scene of one of the bloodiest battles of the War of 1812.

The story of that famous action properly begins in the early hours of July 3, 1814, when a formidable American army crossed the Niagara River at Fort Erie to commence the seventh enemy invasion of Canada since the war had begun. Led by Major General Jacob Brown, a thirty-nine-year-old former Quaker and the most successful of America's wartime leaders, the army was largely composed of well-trained veterans. The result was that the Niagara campaign of 1814 would be the most hard-fought military operation of the war.

For Brown, the campaign started well. The British garrison of Fort Erie was hopelessly outnumbered and quickly surrendered. Brown then advanced north up the Canadian side of the Niagara River and reached the hamlet of Chippawa. There he was attacked by British regulars under the command of Major General Phineas Riall.



COURTESY OF DONALD E. GRAVES

Map of the battlefield from *The War of 1812* by Victor Suthren, Toronto, 1999. The original version is from Benson J. Lossing's *The Pictorial Field-Book of the War of 1812*, published in 1869.

Riall (pronounced "Rye-all") was a somewhat hot-tempered forty-nine-year-old Irishman who held a very low opinion of the fighting abilities of American soldiers. His underestimation of the enemy would prove his undoing. On July 5, Riall attacked Brown's army near Chippawa and came up against a well-drilled force who held steady under artillery fire. Repulsed by the Americans, the British suffered heavy losses. It marked the first time American troops had beaten British regulars in a major action in the open; Brown exalted to Washington that his victory had been "gained over the enemy on a plain" — meaning on an open, European-style battlefield.

Riall withdrew north to the mouth of the Twelve Mile Creek (near present-day St. Catharines). Brown followed, expecting that he would be met by the American naval squadron on Lake Ontario. He counted on using the navy's heavy guns to besiege Fort George at the mouth of the Niagara. But no sails appeared. Frustrated, Brown wrote with impatience to Commodore Isaac Chauncey, the commander of American naval forces on Lake Ontario: "I have looked for your fleet with the greatest anxiety since the 10th... For God's sake let me see you." But Chauncey, who was ill, refused to let a subordinate take his ships out on the lake. Frustrated, Brown reluctantly withdrew to Chippawa on July 23.

Meanwhile, more British and Canadian forces were pouring into the Niagara to shore up the defence of the region. They were led by Lieutenant General Gordon Drummond, the British commander in Upper Canada. The forty-two-year-old Scottish aristocrat was a highly professional officer with twenty-five years of service — and he was determined to drive the invaders out of Canada. By July 25, three columns of Drummond's troops had arrived at a spot north of Chippawa, at the junction of the river road and Lundy's Lane. (The latter was a secondary route named after William Lundy, a local farmer, who lived along it.) A low sand hill, on which was located the local graveyard, formed the central part of Drummond's position.

Upon learning of the British movements, Brown ordered his senior subordinate, Brigadier General Winfield Scott, to move his brigade north. Shortly after five o'clock in the afternoon, Scott's brigade marched out of the camp at Chippawa, their morale buoyed by drummers and fifers playing stirring martial music. Two hours later, Scott emerged from a chestnut wood into an area of cleared fields, only to find himself in full view and within easy range of a British and Canadian force deployed along the crest of a low hill. A few minutes later, the British artillery opened fire. The battle had begun.

Twenty-eight-year-old Winfield Scott — all six foot, four inches of him — was not one to give up. Nicknamed "Old Fuss and Feathers" because of his obsession with detail and love of elaborate uniforms, Scott was nevertheless an extremely aggressive commander. After sending messengers back to Brown saying that the British were in strength at Lundy's Lane, he deployed his troops in an area of cleared fields south of the British line. Unfortunately for his men, the higher position of the British guns put the Americans at a disadvantage. The British took full advantage of this fact and bombarded Scott's line.

Even as roundshot came scything through their ranks, the American infantrymen stood firm, standing so close that each man could touch his neighbour's elbow. Under these conditions, the complex motions of repeatedly loading their muskets and returning fire required great discipline. The men choked on the bitter powder from the cartridges that they had to tear open with their teeth, and they were blinded by clouds of dense smoke arising from the discharge of their own weapons. Their uniforms became scorched or even set on fire by the muzzle blasts from the weapons around them. As men fell, officers and sergeants closed up the gaps in the ranks.

With the line holding, Scott ordered an advance against the hill but was forced to halt when his left flank was threatened by British and Canadian skirmishers. More men fell — eventually, half of Scott's soldiers were dead or wounded. Only the arrival of Brown with the remaining two brigades of the army at about 8:30 p.m. and the coming of night saved Scott's brigade from complete destruction.

Not all, however, had gone wrong for the Americans. Scott had earlier dispatched the 25th Infantry under Major Thomas

Jesup down a lane leading northeast from the river road. Jesup was delighted to find that it took him to a position on the British left flank, which was held by the Incorporated Militia Battalion, a semi regular Canadian unit.

In the failing light, and distracted by skirmishers in front of them, the Canadians did not see the Americans approaching through the trees. Jesup's men formed in line, fired a volley, and charged with their bayonets. The Canadians fell back in confusion and lost their commanding officer, Major William Robinson, who was wounded in the attack. As Robinson was carried to the rear, he advised his men to get behind solid cover, since "a stump or a log will stand a bullet better than the best of yees."

It was nearly dark when Brown arrived to assume command and the British artillery fire gradually died away. Brown, a determined general who had gained a number of victories during the war, took the unexpected decision of continuing the battle in the dark. This was highly unusual move. In the early nineteenth century, battles usually ended at night because it was simply too difficult to fight in the dark. In this case it was even more confusing because both armies spoke the same language and wore similar uniforms, and it was nearly impossible to tell friend from foe.

Undaunted, Brown lined up his troops. He formed the 2nd Brigade under Brigadier General Eleazar Ripley in front of what was left of Scott's 1st Brigade. Brigadier General Peter Porter's 3rd Brigade formed on Ripley's left. At about the same time, about 1,700 British regulars arrived from Twenty Mile Creek; their comrades greeted them with a rousing cheer, which one American remembered "went down us like rain," dampening morale.

Brown had about 2,300 men still on their feet, while Drummond had about 2,900 regulars and about five hundred militia men. Convinced, incorrectly, that he was outnumbered, Drummond decided to stay on the defensive.

Realizing that the key to the British position was the hill, Brown resolved to capture it. He ordered the 1st Infantry to make a feint attack toward the British guns, then rode to the position of the 21st Infantry, one of his best regiments. He ordered that regiment's commander, Colonel James Miller, to attack the British guns. Both men knew the attack would be a near suicide mission; Brown later stated that he regretted having to give it. Miller, a forty-eight-year-old former lawyer from New Hampshire, was a large man of very few words. In response to Brown's order, he famously turned a bit of tobacco in his mouth and said, "I'll try, Sir!" (As fate would have it, this understated remark would go down in American history as a proud battle motto.)

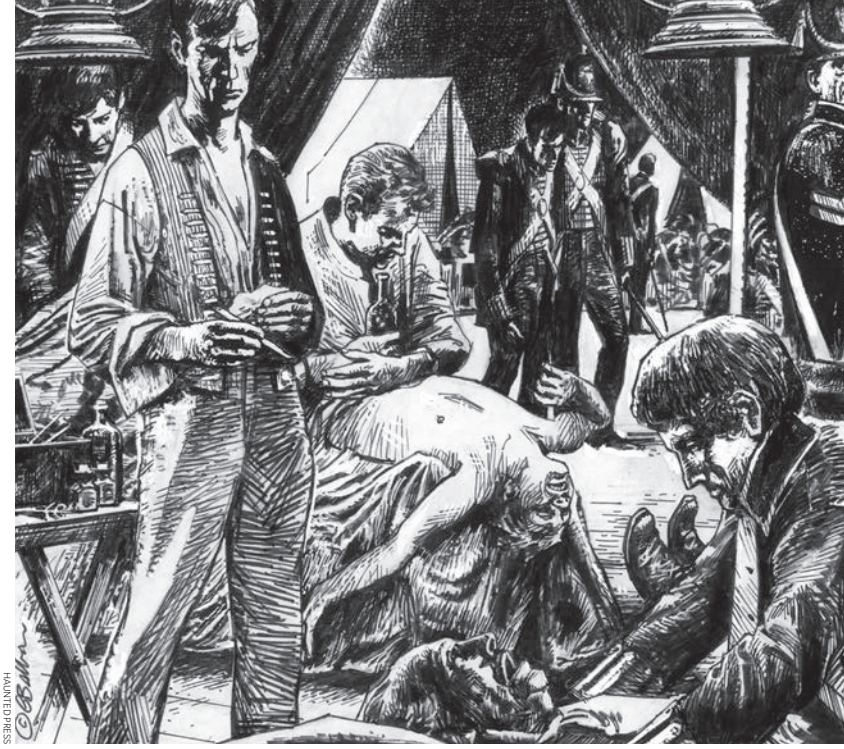
Before Miller's force could move, the 1st Infantry had begun its work — but not according to plan. The unit's commanding officer had apparently received jumbled orders. Instead of carrying out the appearance of an attack, the 1st Infantry mistakenly launched an actual assault and advanced directly up the hill. The British gunners, delighted to have a good target become visible, opened heavy fire, and the 1st Infantry fell back. But all was not lost. The failed attack had the effect of drawing attention away from the approach of Miller's 21st Infantry, which advanced quietly in line up the slope in the dark. The British saw the men but weren't sure, in the faint moonlight, who they were until one officer got close enough to identify the shape of their cap badges. Before he could warn his comrades, the Americans had fired. They then charged uphill with their bayonets drawn.

Taken by surprise, the British gunners fled or were captured. Within minutes, Miller was in possession of eight British artillery pieces. But the British were not willing to give them up so easily. The 89th Regiment of Foot, the British unit to the rear of the artillery, made several desperate attempts to recover the guns; hard fighting ensued, with the two sides so close that the muzzle blaze of their muskets crossed each other.

Losses were already heavy. Early in the battle, Riall, Drummond's second in command, was badly wounded in the arm. While riding to the rear to receive medical treatment, he fell into enemy hands and spent the rest of the war in captivity.

Drummond, mounted on a horse, urged his men on but was hit in the neck by a spent musket or rifle ball. Bleeding heavily, he continued to direct the battle. In preparation for a formal counterattack to recapture his artillery, he regrouped his forces, ordering them down from the north side of the hill.

With contact between the two sides broken, a lull in the fighting ensued. Both sides reorganized. Drummond deployed all his regulars into a long line, resupplying them with ammunition. Brown brought his 2nd and 3rd Brigades onto the hill, leaving Scott's tattered 1st Brigade out of action. He also sent



HAUNTED PRESS

This illustration by George Balbar depicts the wounded being treated during the battle.

Within minutes, Miller was in possession of eight British artillery pieces. But the British were not willing to give them up so easily.

To view a video and other online content related to this story, go to CanadasHistory.ca/LundysLane

couriers back to the American camp to bring his remaining units to the field.

With the fighting temporarily stilled, the only sounds from the battlefield were the shouts of officers barking out commands and the cries of wounded men driven mad with thirst. There was no water available on the battlefield; given that the Niagara River was just a kilometre away, the roar of the falls must have been a torment to them.

It was after 10 p.m. when Drummond launched a counterattack to regain the hill. His line advanced up the north slope to a position within musket range of the American line. They moved in silence — Drummond believed the disciplined British were above needing to be spurred on by the "paltry aid" of shouts and screams. Once in range, the British fired a rolling volley from one flank to another and then tried to close in with a bayonet attack. Brown's troops responded with a series of volleys. The battle soon deteriorated into a firefight at close range.

It was a terrible scene. One British regular described it as "conflict obstinate beyond description." An American remembered how "the lurid glare of the flash and the blaze" made "the faces of those in the opposing ranks wear a sulphurous hue" and have "the appearance of laughing."

Unable to gain ground, the British line withdrew down the north side of the hill. A few minutes later, the British returned, and another firefight ensued with the same result as the previous one. Casualties mounted. Among the wounded were three American generals. Scott took a severe wound to the shoulder and would not fight for the rest of the war. Porter was hit in the wrist. Next was Brown, who was wounded twice and informed one of his staff officers that he did not think he could stay on his horse. "Never mind," replied the officer. "You are gaining the greatest victory that has ever been gained by your country." As officers fell, sergeants, and then corporals, assumed command.

Most witnesses agree that Drummond made at least three attempts to regain his artillery, although some participants thought it was more. At about midnight, the last attack was beaten off, and the British withdrew for the final time.

Anxious to secure the hard-won artillery pieces, Brown ordered Ripley — the only unwounded general on the American side — to remove the captured guns and then withdraw the American troops to Chippawa. But confusion and darkness, combined with exhaustion, resulted in only one captured artillery piece being removed. (It can be seen today at Fort McNair in Washington). The remainder were rolled down the south slope of the hill and abandoned.

At daybreak, the British were delighted to find that most of their artillery was still on the battlefield, and they happily repossessed it.

The dawn also illuminated the scale of the carnage. Bodies were three deep in places. The moans of the wounded haunted the battlefield. The task of cleaning up the battlefield fell to Drummond's army. Mass graves were dug for the British and the Canadians, while the bodies of the Americans were piled in three large pyres and set ablaze. As the smoke billowed up from the pyres, the whole area was permeated with the sickly stench of roasting flesh.

Among those engaged in the grim task was Lieutenant John Le Couteur, a nineteen-year-old Jerseyman with the 104th Regiment of Foot. In his journal, he described the scene as a "slaughterhouse." To sustain themselves, Le Couteur and his men enjoyed a kettle of thick chocolate, which "revived us mercifully," though they "devoured it among dead bodies in all directions."

Among the dead was Captain Abraham Hull, a young American officer whom Le Couteur had come across the night before while on outpost duty. Hull was the son of the famous American General William Hull. "He was mortally wounded," wrote Le Couteur. "And I gave him some brandy and water, and wished Him to give me his watch, rings and anything He wished sent to his family. He told me much about Himself and to come to Him in the morning when He would give them to me in charge." But, when Le Couteur returned, he found that Hull was dead and that his corpse had been completely stripped. Today, a stone marks Hull's grave at Drummond Hill Cemetery in Niagara Falls.

There was also the question of the wounded. More than a thousand required treatment; medical personnel laboured without pause to alleviate their suffering. They worked in makeshift hospitals that resembled charnel houses. Surgeons waded in blood as they moved from patient to patient, cutting off arms and legs and drilling

NIAGARA FALLS MUSEUMS

holes into skulls — all without anaesthesia — in the hope of saving lives. To make things worse, the weather was intensely hot.

British Surgeon William Dunlop, who was personally responsible for the care of 220 wounded men, wrote: "The flies were in myriads and lighting on the wounds, deposited their eggs, so that maggots were bred in a few hours, producing dreadful irritation so that long before I could go round dressing the patients, it was necessary to begin again." Dunlop toiled without rest for two days until, on the third, he fell asleep leaning against a post.

Some wounded men were cared for by their wives. Major Titus Simons of the York militia was hit by three musket balls as he led his men on horseback in a skirmish against Scott's assault on the hill. His wife, Hannah, found him on the battlefield after the action had ended and nursed him back to health.

In all, the official British casualty figure totalled 878 killed, wounded, or missing — about one quarter of the force. The Americans had about the same rate of loss, with about 860 casualties.

Both sides claimed victory at Lundy's Lane. The Americans won the hill and captured the guns but chose to retreat to Fort Erie. Drummond pursued them and laid siege to the fort, an event that became a long, drawn-out, and disastrous affair. A British night assault on August 15 was rebuffed, and many men were killed by an accidental explosion in one of the fort's magazines. The British suffered losses of 905 men killed, wounded, or missing — a greater loss than at Lundy's Lane. On the American side, there were eighty-four casualties.

The British continued the Fort Erie siege and sustained another six hundred casualties on September 17, when U.S. troops launched a sortie and destroyed two British batteries. Drummond's exhausted troops eventually fell back to Chippawa. On November 5, they abandoned Fort Erie, blowing it up before they withdrew from Canada. The Niagara campaign was over. And the end of the War of 1812 soon followed.

Two centuries later, the battlefield at Lundy's Lane endures as a National Historic Site, although it has been gradually encroached upon by development. It is hard to imagine that this quiet, park-like area in the middle of the modern city of Niagara Falls was once the scene of such a bloody conflict.

The site is marked by a plaque in Drummond Hill Cemetery, and an impressive memorial stands on the highest point of the hill. But the roar of the guns has been replaced by the roar of the traffic on nearby Lundy's Lane.

This article is based on the book, *Where Right and Glory Lead! The Battle of Lundy's Lane, 1814* by Donald E. Graves.

***Lundy's Lane* by Alonzo Chappel, 1868. The wounded American officer in the centre is Major General Jacob Brown.**

Canada's History President and CEO Deborah Morrison.

CANADA'S HISTORY

A society comes of age

President and CEO Deborah Morrison bids fond farewell to Canada's History Society.

It was in June 1994 when I first met Laird Rankin, then general manager of the newly established Canada's National History Society, created by Rolph Hubband and the Hudson's Bay Company. There wasn't a lot of activity in the field of popular history back then. Indeed, the society was the first of its kind . . . well, with the exception of the CRB Foundation where I worked, creators of the now iconic Heritage Minutes and the Heritage Fairs program.

In addition to the society taking over publication of *The Beaver*, the Hudson Bay Company's history magazine, Rankin explained that it was exploring options for a new national history-teaching award. I handed him a research file we'd recently completed on the very same thing and encouraged him to pursue it. I had no way of knowing that, eight years later, I would move to Winnipeg and become the person responsible for leading the history society for more than half of its twenty years in operation.

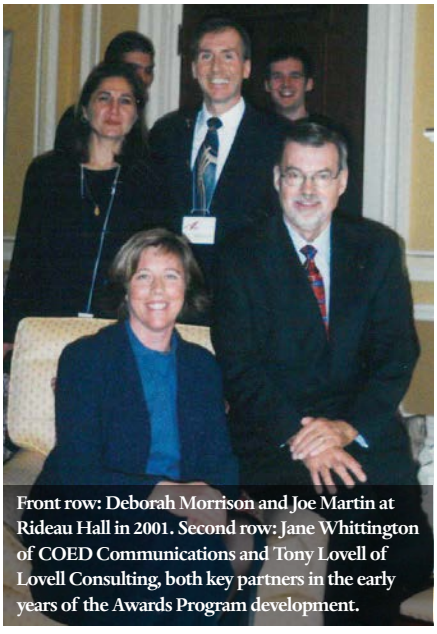
Today, as I reflect on Canada's History Society, I'm struck by how different the history landscape has become, but also by how some challenges simply endure. From the outset, early board minutes reveal animated discussions about the challenges of building on subscription sales and diversifying revenues; of finding the right balance between growing the magazine and finding new ways to bring history to Canadians; and of leading and operating a national cultural organization outside of the "golden triangle" of Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal. (And yes, the magazine's name, *The Beaver*, was also debated then . . . as it had been routinely since the Hudson's Bay Company first transformed it from a company newsletter to a publicly sold magazine in 1930.)

Canada's History magazine will always be the society's flagship activity, not just because it provides us with one of the most fun, creative, and dynamic ways of telling Canada's stories but because it is also a reflection of the evolution of Canadian history itself. Magazine circulation has held steady, somewhere around the forty thousand mark, throughout the society's existence, except for a brief surge past fifty thousand in early 2002. Finding ways to break through that threshold has bedevilled every publisher, including me, but it should never be the full measure of *Canada's History*'s success.

In 1994, popular media was limited to newspapers and magazines, radio, and a handful of English and French Canadian television channels. The Internet was still new to most people. And the typical cellphone was a brick — weighing nearly two pounds!

What's more, the future audience for history was shrinking. Only two of the provinces and territories required high school students to complete a Canadian history course in order to graduate — an observation that historian Jack Granatstein hammered home in 1997 with his battle cry of a book *Who Killed Canadian History?*

That book fuelled the establishment in 1997 of the Dominion Institute, which



Front row: Deborah Morrison and Joe Martin at Rideau Hall in 2001. Second row: Jane Whittington of COED Communications and Tony Lovell of Lovell Consulting, both key partners in the early years of the Awards Program development.

CANADA'S HISTORY

is remembered for launching a project to record the oral histories of war veterans, as well as the creation in 1999 of Historica, which gave a permanent home for the CRB Foundation's "Heritage Project" and the Canadian Encyclopedia.

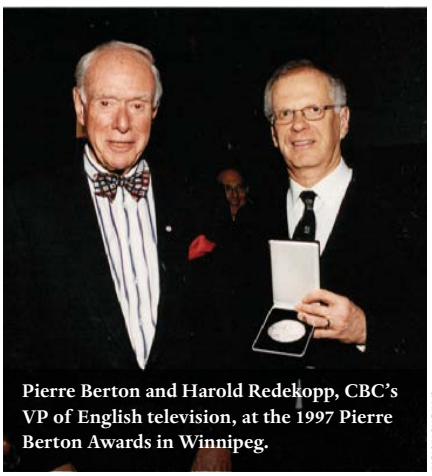
Throughout this bustle of activity, Canada's History Society continued to expand its programming, in large measure thanks to the strength and support of its own long-standing blue-chip members, who understood the value and untapped potential of the modest Winnipeg-based organization. Under the leadership of volunteer president Joe Martin, the society quietly set to work improving its editorial program, building its internal fundraising capacity, and strengthening its connections to classrooms and community organizations.

Back then, the federal government did not see Canadian history as a priority to the extent that it is seen today. In 2003, *The Beaver* magazine was declared ineligible for the Canadian Periodical Fund because it didn't have enough advertising to merit consumer magazine support and wasn't considered "cultural" enough to qualify as an arts and literary title. However, in typical Canadian fashion, any major expansion of programs was unsellable in the private sector, unless we could demonstrate that the federal government was already invested. And so we began pressing hard for project support, both publicly and privately.

Getting Ottawa's attention was an even greater challenge for the history society, simply because it was based in Winnipeg. In Ottawa, some officials had difficulty seeing the history society as being truly "national" because of its western location. But we persevered, spending plenty of time in Ottawa and Toronto to make its presence felt and being very focused on our plan to build from core strengths: our capacity to tell Canada's stories and our connections to the broader history community through our awards and recognition programs.

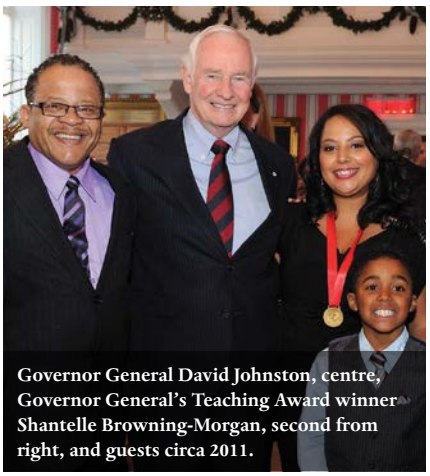
Deborah Morrison, Elsa Franklin, and Charlene Dobmeier share a laugh at the *For the Love of History* book launch in Calgary in October 2005.

CANADA'S HISTORY



Pierre Berton and Harold Redekopp, CBC's VP of English television, at the 1997 Pierre Berton Awards in Winnipeg.

CANADA'S HISTORY



Governor General David Johnston, centre, Governor General's Teaching Award winner Shantelle Browning-Morgan, second from right, and guests circa 2011.

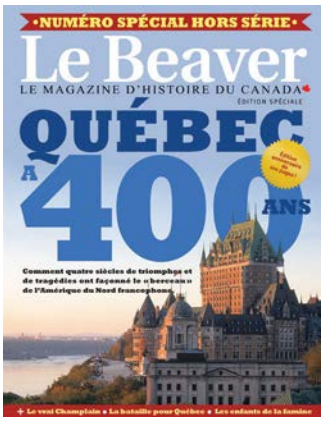
CANADA'S HISTORY

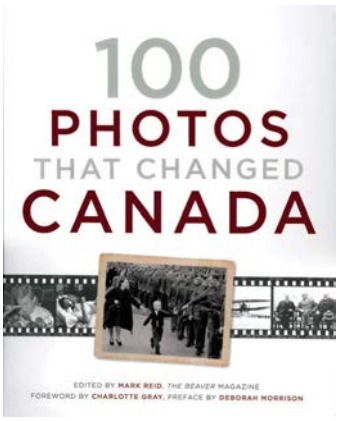
Over the course of the next few years, Canada's History developed a number of new initiatives, including the launch of *Kayak: Canada's History Magazine for Kids* in 2004; the creation of Fur Trade Stories — an online resource with material from *The Beaver*, the HBC Archives, and other sources; and the expansion into book publishing, producing *For The Love of History* to honour the tenth anniversary of the Pierre Berton Award and *Those Earlier Hills*, reprinting *The Beaver*'s R.M. Patterson articles chronicling his adventures exploring the Nahanni River.

This has been more than a job to me — it has been a privilege.

By 2008, the society had secured multi-year funding from the federal government to expand both its online programming and the Governor General's History Awards. It confirmed new partnerships with TD Bank Financial Group and Great-West Life, as well as the University of Winnipeg, on whose campus the society is now located. *The Beaver* magazine was doing well, with a new design, an expanded distribution onto more newsstands, and a growing reputation within the media industry. Annual revenues had doubled with new investments equally from federal and corporate support. And then, in fall 2008, as the stock market crashed, the print publishing industry experienced a sudden paradigm shift to online media. On average, magazine paid subscriptions in Canada have declined since then by almost thirty percent, although industry readership surveys report that the total number of readers held steady.

Dealing with such an abrupt change in popular media consumption meant rethinking audiences, as well as platforms. Finding





Canada's History Society has a robust publishing program. It launched *Kayak: Canada's History Magazine for Kids* in 2004 and continues to distribute a French edition inside *Les Debrouillards,* a children's magazine published in Quebec. It has published *Le Beaver/ Canada's History* in French three times since 2008. Since 2005, it has published four books, including the 2009 national bestseller *100 Photos That Changed Canada*.

ways to reinforce marketing for our magazines, educational resources, awards programs, travel tours, and advocacy efforts ultimately led to the decision in 2010 to consolidate under a single new name — Canada's History — that unequivocally spoke to our mission.

Through it all, our founder and partner, Hudson's Bay Company, has stood firmly behind us. There is no company that has done more to create, preserve, and honour our history, and we hope that we have lived up to the vision it had for the organization when it stood up to announce the society's creation all those years ago.

Our reach into Canadian families and households is much broader today than in 1994, with a growing circulation of nearly ten thousand English subscribers for *Kayak* and more than thirty-three thousand for its French edition. CanadasHistory.ca attracts more than one million page views each year, and an overwhelming majority of the site's visitors have never been print subscribers. We support hundreds of thousands of students each year across Canada through the Heritage Fairs program and the different writing and video challenges we offer them annually. The Governor General's History Awards program has expanded to recognize excellence in eleven different award categories, and has brought together Canada's five major history and heritage organizations in an annual event to celebrate history and to explore ways to improve upon the work we are collectively doing through the National History Forum.

This year, Canada's History will continue to expand its programming, travel tours, and educational programs. It will launch a new book, *Canada's Great War Album*, this fall, which will feature never-before-seen images and untold stories of the men and women of the Great War generation. And, as this column is being written, development work is beginning on a series of one-minute television commercials that will expand the reach of those stories to broadcast and online as well.

Which brings me full circle to the first history project I ever worked on, signalling that a generational cycle is now completed. It is time for new history to be made, with a new leader to guide the way forward for Canada's History Society, and so this will be my last contribution to Canada's History Society as President and CEO.

This has been more than a job to me — it has been a privilege. I take pride in noting that some things have changed for the better over the past twenty years. All but two of the provinces and territories have added more history courses to their curricula; there are more opportunities for teacher training in Canadian history, and more resources are being created and maintained thanks to the now permanent Canada History Fund.

But there are still other challenges ahead. Canada's History will continue to be an influential voice in driving change, and addressing challenges, in part because of the networks it has built within the history community. But, ultimately, their greatest strength still comes from you, our readers and members, who never hesitate to set us straight on the real issues and priorities and will always continue to inspire us with your knowledge, passion, and commitment to the past. Thank you for permitting us (and me) to continue to make history.

In 2009, the Society took over national coordination for the Heritage Fairs program. Deborah Morrison poses with the Canada's History award winners from the 2012 Red River Heritage Fair, Kelsey Werkman (left) and Gabrielle Cochingco (right).

CANADA'S HISTORY

CANADA'S HISTORY BATTLEFIELDS TOURS:

THE ITALIAN CAMPAIGN

SEPTEMBER 18 – 28, 2014

RETRACE THE STEPS OF THE CANADIANS WHO FREED ITALY FROM FASCISM.

Fees

Program fee from Toronto - **$4,500**
Departure fees and taxes - **$625**

Total cost per person - **$5,125***
*Based on double occupancy.

Featuring special guest tour guide, historian and author **Mark Zuehlke**.

TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 Overnight flight to Rome

DAY 2 Arrive in Rome and transfer directly to Cassino. Free time. Welcome dinner. Overnight in Cassino.

DAY 3 Tour of Liri Valley and Hitler line; Tour of Gari/Rapido area/Kingsmill Bridge; Monument at Ponte Corvo & start point in Aquino. Overnight in Cassino

DAY 4 Guided Sightseeing of Cassino, including Abbey of Monte Cassino, Polish Cemetery, Commonwealth War Cemetery. Transfer to Ortona. Overnight in Ortona.

DAY 5 Visit the Moro River Canadian War Cemetery. Tour of Moro River area and Casa Berardi. Walking Tour of Ortona with guide. Mid-tour dinner. Overnight in Ortona.

DAY 6 Transfer to Rimini region via Tavullia Monument. Visit Gradara War Cemetery. Overnight in Rimini.

DAY 7 Visit Coriano Ridge. Guided Sightseeing of Rimini (*or Ravenna for guided tour of Byzantine Mosaics) and San Marino. Overnight in Rimini.

DAY 8 Transfer to Florence via Bologna. Lunch in Bologna. Free time in Florence. Overnight in Florence.

DAY 9 Guided Sightseeing in Florence. Transfer to Rome via stop in Montepulciano at Salcheto Winery (sustainable winery). Overnight in Rome.

DAY 10 Guided Sightseeing of Rome, Colosseum, Forum and Vatican. Farewell Dinner. Overnight in Rome.

DAY 11 Depart for home.

Go to **CanadasHistory.ca/BattlefieldsTours** or call Alex Case at **1-800-263-2806** to book now.

CANADA'S HISTORY TRAVELS | Educational Tours

WHAT'S IT WORTH?

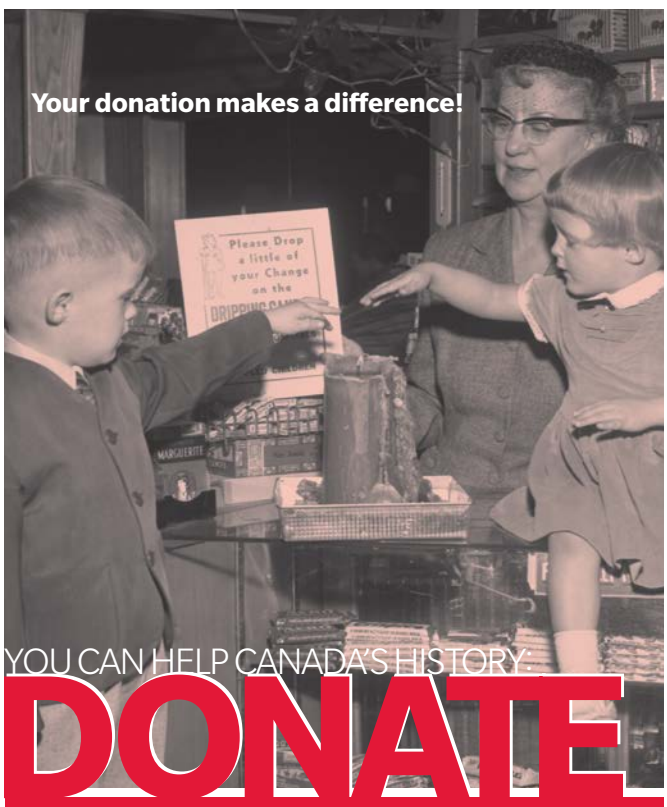
ARE **VALUABLE ANTIQUES** HIDING IN YOUR ATTIC?
CANADA'S HISTORY WANTS TO HELP YOU!

- Military Items
- Artwork
- Coins
- Stamps
- Furniture

What Treasures will be revealed?

*PLEASE ENSURE PHOTOS OF ITEMS ARE SHOT AGAINST PLAIN WHITE BACKGROUNDS, WITH MINIMAL GLARE OR FLASH. IMAGES SHOULD BE 300 DPI IN JPG FORMAT.

Email photos to: WhatsItWorth@CanadasHistory.ca
or go to: CanadasHistory.ca/WhatsItWorth for more details.



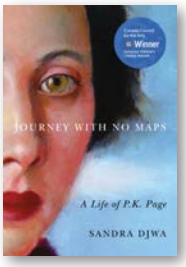
Your donation makes a difference!

YOU CAN HELP CANADA'S HISTORY.

DONATE

Visit CanadasHistory.ca/Community/Donate
or call 1-888-816-0997

CANADA'S HISTORY



POETIC TRANSPORT

Journey With No Maps: A Life of P.K. Page
by Sandra Djwa
McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, 2012
440 pp., illus., $24.95 paperback

This first biography of P.K. Page (1916–2010) borrows its title from a famous quote by the celebrated Canadian poet and fine artist: "I am traveller. I have a destination but no maps. Others perhaps have reached that destination already, still others are on their way. But none has had to go from here before — nor will again. One's route is one's own. One's journey unique."

The quote comes from Page's 1970 essay "Traveller, Conjuror, Journeyman," in which she explores the creative process by tracing "correspondences" between her poetry and visual art. Ultimately, the artist suggests that her art involves a sort of "transportation," a "conjuration" to which she apprentices herself. She writes, "At times I seem to be attempting to copy exactly something which exists in a dimension where worldly senses are inadequate. As if a thing only felt had to be extracted from invisibility and transposed into a seen thing, a heard thing."

The book's title also signals one of its greatest strengths — the care, sensitivity, and sympathy with which the biographer fuses the "main events" of Page's life with her artistic development. The chapters in *Journey With No Maps* graph Page's life simultaneously through her inner evolution and her literal travel: Moves took her from England to the Canadian West and the Maritimes in her childhood; to England, Montreal, and Ottawa in her late teens and early twenties; then abroad to Australia, Mexico, Brazil, and Guatemala as the young wife of diplomat Arthur Irwin; and finally back to her native Canadian soil, specifically British Columbia, where she lived the second half of her life.

As author Sandra Djwa, professor emerita of English at Simon Fraser University, notes, "Only when the main events had been charted was it possible to speculate on the curve of the artist's creative life."

In her poem "The Map," Page expresses the intricacies and ambiguities evoked by an internal knowledge of the world. A part of the poem is quoted in the book; the poet describes a landscape occupied by two lovers who believe themselves to be in "a world away on Precambrian rock," only to find, upon consulting a map, that they are much closer to civilization:

But we were wrong and the map was true
and had we stood and looked about
from our height of land, we'd have had a view
which, since, we have had to learn by heart.

Indeed, in illuminating and integrating this tension between inner and outer realms, Djwa honours — and generously shares with the reader — an intimate and integral aspect of Page's life and work: her own deep commitment to the reality of a spiritual and creative journey, the "nonlinear and symbolic." Throughout her life, Page sought out Jungian and other psychologies and became a follower of spiritual paths such as Sufism, in which "all time and events are simultaneous."

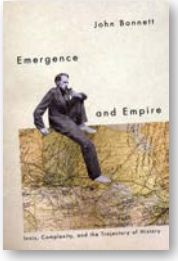
In one chapter, Djwa writes, "As [Page] would sometimes remind me, speaking of the creative process and its reflection, 'The process is not linear. And I can't but feel you think it is. Everything we read and experience is, of course, part of the compost heap that produces the flowers, the weeds. But there is another — and much larger — source, the collective unconscious to use Jung's term; or to quote myself, that there are other dimensions to the mind beyond those we already recognize.'"

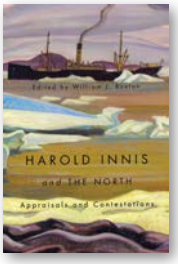
Djwa's writing is perceptive and supple, her research thorough, making the book a fascinating and pleasurable journey for the reader.

Having begun the project in the late 1990s, the biographer interviewed Page many times over the final decade of her life and culled primary materials from friends, colleagues, and Page's myriad mentees. The collection includes materials and quotes from well-known artists and authors such as surrealist painter Leonora Carrington, Montreal artist Jori Smith, poet Anne Wilkinson, academic Constance Rooke, and writers Alice Munro, Margaret Atwood, and Rosemary Sullivan. Djwa was invited by the poet herself to write this book; years earlier, Djwa authored the biography of poet F.R. Scott, with whom Page had a serious, long-term affair in her early life, and who remained an important and beloved figure for Page throughout her life.

Journey With No Maps is chock full of vivid, intriguing details of Page's life and creative development. Significant space is dedicated to Page's artwork and poetry, often linking the subject matter to Page's inner and outer travails. In this, too, the biographer seems to tribute Page's credo of art as a kind of inner mapping; as Page contended, "a poem should not mean but be…. The poem is a labyrinth of the self."

Reviewed by **Mariianne Mays Wiebe**, a poet and writer with an interest in creative processes across the disciplines.





FUR-GOTTEN DOMINION

Emergence and Empire: Innis, Complexity, and the Trajectory of History
by John Bonnett
McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, 2013
381 pp., $34.95 paperback

Harold Innis and The North: Appraisals and Contestations
edited by William J. Buxton
McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, 2013
431 pp., illus., $32.95 paperback

"The history of Canada has been profoundly influenced by the habits of an animal which very fittingly occupies a prominent place on her coat of arms," begins one of the most groundbreaking histories of our country: *The Fur Trade in Canada*, by

Harold A. Innis.

Published in 1930, *The Fur Trade* torpedoed the received wisdom of its time — that this country was an artificial construct of disparate colonies that clung together in 1867 to avoid the almost irresistible pull of its powerful southern neighbour. Not so, argued the thirty-six-year-old assistant professor at the University of Toronto: "The present Dominion emerged not in spite of geography but because of it." Thanks to the beaver, Innis wrote, Canada had a coast-to-coast geographical coherence based on three centuries of fur trade, which had determined not only its boundaries but also its financial institutions and expectations of government.

Although Innis continues to loom large within universities, his scholarship has been undermined by academic fashion and later interpretation. His thesis that the Canadian economy was shaped by dependence on staples (fur, fish, lumber, wheat) is regarded as too Central Canadian, while his later work on communications is frankly impenetrable. One commentator suggested that, in works like *Empire and Communications* (1950), the author had a gift for "snatching obscurity out of the jaws of clarity." Outside academic life, Innis has been completely overshadowed by his more glamorous student Marshall McLuhan, the media theorist who coined bumper-sticker intellectualisms such as "the medium is the message" and appeared in a Woody Allen movie.

Yet Innis's work resonates today. *The Fur Trade* and (to a lesser extent) *The Cod Fisheries* (1940) are grounded in what the author liked to call "dirt research" and are the kind of solid narrative histories that are enjoying a revival. He travelled the routes opened up by fur traders, talking to people and recording their memories as he went. He told the story of the great trading companies not from the point of view of the comfortably housed managers but from the perspective of those on the ground. In particular, he examined the impact the fur trade had on First Nations, who played an essential role in determining the extent of the trade and its profitability. The economics of the fur trade shaped the economy of Canada, with large transcontinental financial institutions headquartered in eastern Canada (Montreal in his day, Toronto today) and robust partnerships between government and private enterprise.

Innis also embraced northern Canada as a field for adventure, mineral extraction, scientific exploration, and tourism. His own canoe trips during the 1920s down northern rivers (including the Mackenzie, Peace, Slave, and Yukon) had fired his imagination as well as his research interests: Badly wounded at Vimy Ridge, he had begun his travels as a limping scholar and emerged as a vigorous and healthy Canadian nationalist.

The combination of compelling personal biography and contemporary priorities (Canadian reliance on primary products, the strategic importance of the Canadian Arctic, First Nations' concerns) makes Innis ripe for reconsideration. Two new volumes suggest that Innis may be emerging from the shadows, and, although neither volume is written for a general reader, each shines a new light on one of our most profound thinkers.

The author of *Emergence and Empire* is an intellectual historian at Brock University who holds a Canada Research Chair in Digital Humanities. John Bonnett's purpose is to analyze Innis's work through the new lens of change theory. Unlike most commentators, he argues that both Innis's early work on staples and his later explorations of different vehicles of communication are all part of the same sustained exploration of how economies, societies, and cultures change. Bonnett suggests that Innis was constrained not only by the analytic tools available to him but also by the limitations of print culture — his later, more difficult publications that are often "data dumps" would have worked better as websites with hyperlinks.

"Harold Innis was a prophet," argues Bonnett, "not because he was obscure, and not because he was hyperbolic, but rather because he produced writings that, in the end, have proven to be prescient." Bonnett's book is a tough read, but its concluding chapter is a lucid description of Innis's intellectual development — and his significance today.

Harold Innis and The North began as a series of papers for a 2007 conference held at Concordia University, where editor William Buxton is a professor of communications studies. Buxton argues that Innis scholarship has been too closely focused on his staples theory, which spawned the Laurentian school of Canadian history, to the neglect of Innis's long-standing engagement with the North. Throughout his career, Innis visited, wrote about, and spoke about the North (including both Labrador and the Soviet North), and he never regarded it — unlike too many of his contemporaries — as an ice-bound wilderness.

Buxton and his fellow authors reveal how large a role the North played in Innis's own imagination, as both an integral part of the Canadian economy and a counterbalance to Americanizing tendencies elsewhere in Canada.

Reviewed by **Charlotte Gray**, author and adjunct professor of research at Carleton University.

RIBBON OF TYPE

Making National News:
A History of Canadian Press
by Gene Allen
University of Toronto Press, Toronto, 2013
455 pp., illus., $36.95 paperback

Thanks to the books of Pierre Berton, the nineteenth-century struggle to build a railway to the Pacific and unite a new nation is well-known. *Making National News* explores a nation-building exercise that was perhaps even more crucial — the establishment of a wire service to deliver news from coast to coast.

Author Gene Allen, a former journalist and a professor of journalism and communications studies at Ryerson University, has produced the first comprehensive history of Canadian Press from its creation in 1917 to the 1970s. CP has been — and remains — a major source of what Canadians know about the outside world as well as what they know about themselves.

Day in, day out, Allen writes, CP's editors and reporters have decided "what counted as news and how it should be treated," giving Canadians from Vancouver to St. John's "a common base of information." This steady

stream of shared words, he argues, has been more influential than the CBC in forging a distinct Canadian identity and culture.

CP's founders had less-lofty goals. Publishers of more than one hundred newspapers formed the co-operative during the First World War to share the cost of delivering news via telegraph to far-flung cities and towns. Just as importantly, small-town editors could tap into American and foreign news from New York-based Associated Press.

But there were stirrings of nationalist sentiment from the start, as member papers chafed at the pro-American bias of AP's reports and sought access to unfiltered foreign news. As one of CP's founders, M.E. Nichols of the *Winnipeg Telegram*, noted in 1919, events in Britain and the Empire "should not be presented to the Canadian people through United States spectacles."

This is an institutional history, and Allen devotes much of the book to internal debates over budgets cuts, union drives, and how to compete with radio and rival news services. This will be tough slogging for readers more interested in how CP covered the news than the challenges the organization faced and how it survived and changed over time.

Some personalities emerge, most notably Ross Munro, who often accompanied Canadian troops into battle during the Second World War and scooped his fellow correspondents with some of his coverage from the front lines. He went ashore during the disastrous Dieppe raid in 1942 and described how "a rain of German machine-gun fire" wounded half the men in his landing craft, and "only a miracle saved us from annihilation." Despite his gripping reports, Munro would always regret how wartime censorship had prevented him from telling Canadians the true extent of the debacle.

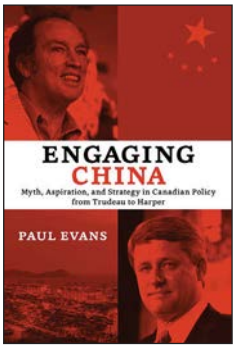
While CP took an objective approach to political stories in the pre-Second World War era of partisan and party-owned newspapers, Allen reveals that it sometimes ruffled feathers in Ottawa. Coverage of Cape Breton's bitter coal strikes of the 1920s irked Liberal Labour Minister James Murdock, and Conservative Prime Minister Arthur Meighen once chewed out a CP manager for "play[ing] up to the opposition" Liberals.

CP's failure to please either side of the political spectrum proves it found the middle ground. More importantly, Allen concludes, its coverage fostered a sense of nationhood in its country-wide news audience, "systematically and permanently drawing Canadians more closely together in an increasingly integrated national cultural space."

And CP helped to shape a Canadian identity on another, more practical level. CP's style book, the news industry's bible on word usage for decades, decrees that American terms and spellings must stop at the border. So Murdock was the minister of *labour*, not *labor*. And that ribbon of steel that tied our nation together is not an American *railroad* — it's an all-Canadian *railway*.

Reviewed by **Dean Jobb**, an associate professor in the School of Journalism at the University of King's College in Halifax, where he teaches courses in reporting and writing the news — and Canadian Press style.

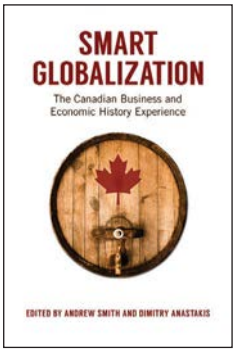
New from University of Toronto Press



Engaging China
Myth, Aspiration, and Strategy in Canadian Policy from Trudeau to Harper

by Paul Evans

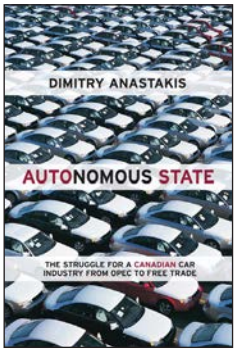
For more than four decades, engagement has been the bedrock of Canada's policy toward China. Author Paul Evans provides a concise account of the evolution and state of the Canadian approach to China, its achievements, disappointments, and current dilemmas.


SMART
GLOBALIZATION
The Canadian Business and Economic History Experience
EDITED BY ANDREW SMITH AND DIMITRY ANASTAKIS

Smart Globalization
The Canadian Business and Economic History Experience

edited by Andrew Smith and Dimitry Anastakis

Smart Globalization brings together essays from both historians and economists to demonstrate that Canada's economic success stemmed neither from complete openness to globalization nor policies of isolation and self-sufficiency.



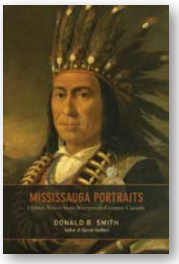
Winner of the Hagley Prize in Business History awarded by the Business History Conference

Autonomous State
The Epic Struggle for a Canadian Car Industry from OPEC to Free Trade

by Dimitry Anastakis

This prize winning book chronicles the evolution of the Canadian auto industry from the 1973 OPEC embargo to the 1989 Canada–US Free Trade Agreement and its effects on public policy, diplomacy, business enterprise, workers, and consumers.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PRESS
Advancing Knowledge
utppublishing.com



UNSETTLED PEOPLE

Mississauga Portraits: Ojibwe Voices from Nineteenth-Century Canada
by Donald B. Smith
University of Toronto Press, Toronto, 2013
493 pp., illus., $37.95 paperback

This book is about a group of Mississaugans that few people who live in Mississauga, Ontario, today are likely familiar with. The people profiled are none other than a handful of the original inhabitants of much of the land that is now covered by the sprawling city of more than seven hundred thousand people in the Greater Toronto Area.

The nineteenth-century Ojibwe people profiled by Donald B. Smith all have one thing in common: Educated by Methodists, they were able to read and write in English, which was uncommon even among many non-Aboriginal people at that time. Being literate, they left behind journals, letters, and other writings that tell the stories of their lives and of their mostly unsuccessful struggles to be treated fairly by colonial authorities. Some became Methodist preachers.

One of the men profiled is Kahgegagahbowh — usually known as George Copway (1818–1869). Copway became a literary celebrity, publishing three books, including his autobiography, a history of the Ojibwe, and an account of his European travels in 1850. In the mid-nineteenth century, he was Canada's most successful author in the United States.

Copway's degree of English literacy contrasted sharply with the Mississauga leaders who had negotiated a land deal with the British the year he was born. The Rice Lake Treaty of 1818 transferred about eighty thousand hectares of land to the British. The Mississauga understood during talks carried out in the Ojibwe language that they would retain the rights to islands, points, and river mouths; surviving minutes of the negotiations, in English, confirm this. But this key provision was left out of the treaty they signed but could not read. As Copway later wrote, his people had been "grossly abused, deceived, and cheated."

Nahmebahnwequay — commonly known as Nahnee, and, after her marriage, as Catherine Sutton — is the sole woman profiled. Nahnee lost her rights as an Aboriginal when she married William Sutton, an English Methodist. But Nahnee, a brilliant and determined woman who spoke with great eloquence, remained a respected leader and was selected by the Ojibwe of Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay to take their land grievances to the British Crown. Pregnant and unaccompanied by her husband (who stayed home to care for their other children) Nahnee travelled to England in 1860 to petition Queen Victoria. Against great odds, she succeeded in drawing widespread attention to the plight of her people.

Shawundais — known as John Sunday — was a War of 1812 veteran who, after the war, overcame a serious drinking problem after converting to Methodism and becoming a preacher. But, as Smith reveals, his understanding of Christianity was blended with his Aboriginal world view. He encouraged his people to become farmers and to educate themselves and their children, in this way strengthening their hold on their land. Under his leadership, the Alderville Mississauga successfully resisted removal from the Rice Lake area.

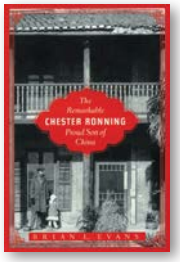
Leaders such as Shawundais strongly supported a formal British education for their children and even favoured putting them in residential schools. Tragically, too many of the Aboriginal students who showed promise as future leaders died young, since they were especially vulnerable to smallpox and other diseases brought over from Europe.

The theme of the struggle against injustice runs deep through all of the Mississaugans profiled in this book. Unfortunately, their best efforts were often not enough to turn back the strength of the tide of British settlement. Their struggle followed a pattern: They were removed from their traditional territory — usually by signing an agreement they didn't fully understand — and enticed to move to a less desirable place. After settling in the new location, where they had built houses and cleared farms, they did not receive clear title to the land because of the fact they were Aboriginal. Thus they would again be pushed off their land as non-Aboriginal settlement expanded.

Smith's book goes into quite a bit of detail on how all this took place within the letter of British North American law. As he points out, "had the Credit Mississauga received a title deed to their Credit River lands, a major Indian reserve would be situated in the Toronto area today."

Anyone with an interest in First Nations history will find this book enlightening. Smith, who is professor emeritus of history at the University of Calgary, has done a fine job of distilling material gleaned from forty years of research into primary documents he uncovered from various sources. The writing is mostly straightforward and accessible. There is some repetition but not much. As a bonus, the book is well illustrated with historical photographs sprinkled throughout.

Reviewed by **Nelle Oosterom**, senior editor of *Canada's History* magazine.



DIPLOMATIC TOUCH

The Remarkable Chester Ronning: Proud Son of China
by Brian L. Evans
University of Alberta Press, Edmonton, 2013
330 pp., illus., $34.95 paperback

Fifty years ago, diplomat Chester Ronning was a Canadian celebrity, a fixture in campus "teach-ins" on the Vietnam War, and the subject of an NFB television documentary. Surprisingly, no English biography of Ronning has previously been published — although a Chinese biography appeared in 1999.

Brian Evans, a former diplomat and respected scholar at the University of Alberta, has written a portrait of Ronning that is both personal and professional. Evans draws from

family letters, official records, interviews, and academic comments. He has assessed Ronning's life with care, avoiding excessive claims but giving credit for substantial contributions.

Chester Ronning was born in Fancheng (Hubei), China, in 1896, the son of Lutheran missionaries. He lived in China until he was twelve years old, when his family left to farm on their homestead near Camrose, Alberta. After attending university, he decided to return to China as a teacher.

Ronning was appalled by the poverty and violence in Chinese daily life during the 1920s. He openly expressed to students his sympathy for their nationalism and radicalism, but, when conditions for Western teachers and missionaries became too perilous, he and his young family returned to Alberta.

In 1927, Ronning was appointed principal of Camrose Lutheran College. He emerged as a political activist and was elected to the Alberta legislature. He allied himself with the new Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, attending the historic 1933 Regina Manifesto convention and serving as the CCF's Alberta leader for several years.

The Second World War changed Ronning's life trajectory from education to diplomacy. While stationed in Ottawa on a code-breaking team, his command of Chinese and his knowledge of the country attracted attention from Canada's small diplomatic service. In 1945, when he was nearly fifty-one years old, Ronning was recruited to Canada's embassy in China.

He shone in this new role. Tasked with establishing better connections in the civil war that pitted Chinese nationalists against the Communists, he routinely met senior people from all parties, developing close relations with Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai, among others.

Ronning was supposed to be on a one-year assignment, but it lasted for five years and ended only when Canada decided against establishing diplomatic relations with the new People's Republic. Ronning made no secret of his disappointment.

Ronning was now a professional diplomat, receiving two solid promotions that could have capped his career (ambassador in Oslo, Norway, and High Commissioner in New Delhi, India). But his expertise on East Asia was well regarded, and he frequently joined the Canadian delegations negotiating Indochinese issues.

The most public phase of his life lay ahead. Shortly after he retired in 1964, Ronning was contacted by Paul Martin Sr., Canada's minister for external affairs. The Vietnam War was in full fury, raising fears of wider conflicts. Martin believed that Ronning could use his personal contacts in Vietnam and China to "sound out" possibilities for peace discussions.

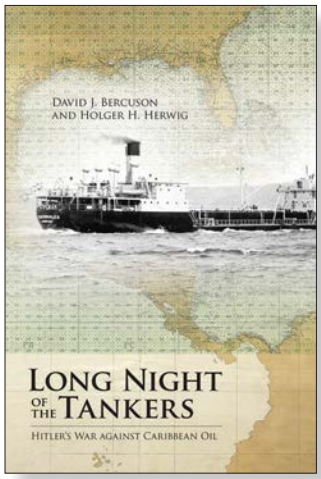
It was a difficult situation. The Americans felt that Ronning was pro-Communist. The North Vietnamese respected him but felt Canada was wholly aligned with America. Ronning persevered. After high-level meetings in Hanoi, Vietnam, he reported on a possible conciliatory Vietnamese proposal. He shared this information with U.S. authorities, but it did not lead anywhere.

Ronning's role in Canada's quixotic Vietnam initiative added to his reputation. He was sought out as an expert on Vietnam and on Chinese issues. His clear, well-tempered

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY PRESS

Making a difference.
Making you think.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY PRESS



PUBLISHED WITH THE CENTRE FOR MILITARY AND STRATEGIC STUDIES

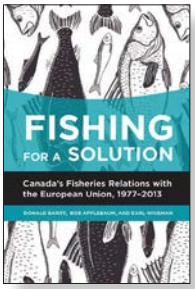
WE ARE OPEN ACCESS

LONG NIGHT OF THE TANKERS
Hitler's War Against Caribbean Oil

David J. Bercuson and Holger H. Herwig

9781552387597 pb
9781552387627 epub
320 pp, $34.95, illustrations

A fresh account of a lesser-known but critical component of the Atlantic naval theatre during World War II - the story behind the German plan known as *Operation Neuland*.

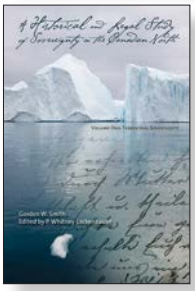


FISHING FOR A SOLUTION
Canada's Fisheries Relations with the European Union, 1977–2013

Donald Barry, Bob Applebaum, and Earl Wiseman

9781552387788 pb
9781552387818 epub
150 pp, $34.95

An inside look at international relations.



A HISTORICAL AND LEGAL STUDY OF SOVEREIGNTY IN THE CANADIAN NORTH
Volume One: Terrestrial Sovereignty

Gordon W. Smith, edited by P. Whitney Lackenbauer

9781552387207 pb
9781552387726 epub
500 pp, $39.95, illustrations

The life's work of a historian.

Alberta Government | Canada | Canada Council for the Arts | Conseil des Arts du Canada

Visit us at **www.uofcpress.com**

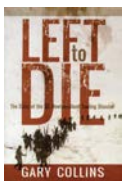
explanations were reported in American and Canadian media, helping to change a climate of opinion. He relished this public role of "unofficial ambassador," which continued in various ways until his death, in 1984, at the age of ninety.

While Evans' book is a biography, it presents a succinct overview of the political movements that reshaped China during the past century. Evans writes with clarity and authority, providing a fascinating study for students of Canadian diplomacy and for readers interested in modern China.

Reviewed by **Victor Rabinovitch**, who represented the Canadian government internationally over many years. He is an adjunct professor at the Queen's University School of Policy Studies.

More Books

Left to Die: The Story of the SS Newfoundland Sealing Disaster



by Gary Collins
Flanker Press, St. John's, N.L., 2013
343 pp., illus., $26.95 hardcover

It was a cold April night in 1914 when Mary Crewe awoke from her sleep to see a ghostly image of her husband and son kneeling by her bed in an embrace. She knew immediately that the worst had happened — her men had perished at sea on the annual seal hunt.

Reuben and Albert John Crewe were just two of the seventy-eight sealers from the SS *Newfoundland* who died after being unnecessarily stranded for two days on the ice floes of the North Atlantic. One hundred years later, Gary Collins revisits that fateful trip in his latest book, *Left to Die: The Story of the SS Newfoundland Sealing Disaster*.

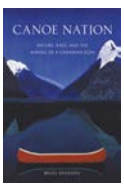
Collins builds on Cassie Brown's seminal work, *Death on the Ice*, first published in 1972, by retracing events through the eyes of the sealers, the ship captains, and their family members waiting at home. But, unlike Brown, Collins had no survivors or witnesses to provide first-hand accounts of the events. Instead, he spoke to their descendants, gathering stories passed on to the next generation and exploring how the tragedy is remembered by Newfoundlanders a century later.

Collins spends a good deal of time setting the scene for readers, and he paints a vivid picture of the hardships these families endured simply to survive. Most of the sealers were fisherman needing to supplement their income, so the possibility of earning some real cash far outweighed the dangers of sealing. Droves of men made the trek to St. John's, Newfoundland, each spring, many of them coming on foot from distant outport communities, for the mere chance of securing a berth on a sealing ship.

Once on board sealing vessels, the men faced inadequate food and equipment and poor living conditions. Worker safety was not a priority for the greedy ship owners — the owners of the SS *Newfoundland* even removed the wireless communication system a week before their hunt because they felt it cut into their profits.

Gary Collins delivers a powerful reminder that the 1914 sealing disaster shouldn't be dismissed as an act of God or a freak tragedy. The men on the SS *Newfoundland*, and their fathers and grandfathers before them, faced treacherous working conditions and risked their lives every year just to get by. *Left to Die* helps to ensure that their struggles and stories will be remembered. — **Joanna Dawson**

Canoe Nation: Nature, Race, and the Making of a Canadian Icon



by Bruce Erickson
University of British Columbia Press, Vancouver, 2013
251 pp., illus., $32.95 paperback

Be warned: *Canoe Nation* is not a gentle ode to Canada's love affair with the canoe. It's a critique — not of the canoe per se, for what's not to love about this graceful watercraft? Rather, it's telling us that this adorable little boat has been put to use as a fetish object of Canadian nationalism.

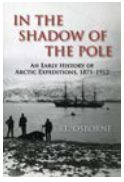
There's no argument about the canoe's role as an icon of identity. Think of the images of prominent Canadians in canoes, such as Pierre Elliot Trudeau, Grey Owl, and Bill Mason. Think of the links between the canoe, First Nations people, and voyageurs. Think of Canoe, one of Canada's finest restaurants, located on the top of Toronto's TD Bank tower.

As author Bruce Erickson, who once worked as a guide on canoe trips in Northwestern Ontario, states: "The central argument of this book is that the canoe does not exist as a natural symbol of the Canadian nation, but rather that the sentimental place of the canoe in Canada is the result of a set of narratives that attempts to legitimize a particular vision of the nation."

This book can be heavy going. But, if you don't mind puzzling over words like "ontopology," you'll be fine. Erickson offers an interesting take on a topic that's not usually analyzed in this way. Still, you might come away from this thinking — with apologies to Sigmund Freud — that sometimes a canoe is just a canoe.

— **Nelle Oosterom**

In the Shadow of the Pole: An Early History of Arctic Expeditions, 1871–1912



by S.L. Osborne
Dundurn Press, Toronto, 2013
304 pp., illus., $35 paperback

Most Canadians have not, nor will ever, visit our country's Arctic — and, it seems, early governments of Canada weren't too bothered by the region, either.

One of the first Canadian expeditions northwards, in 1884, was not for exploration but to determine the navigability of Hudson Strait for potential grain shipments from what is now Churchill, Manitoba. Lieutenant Andrew Gordon commanded the *Neptune*, a seal-hunting ship rented by the government, and a small crew through the isolated channel into Hudson Bay. Imagine his surprise when, from a conversation with local Inuit, he learned that American whalers had been hunting and trading in the region for years!

In the Shadow of the Pole is a detailed account of lesser-known treks to the North, by Canada and other nations, to conquer the hostile weather and seas of the Arctic and claim the ultimate prize — being the first to the North Pole. Author S.L. Osborne tells a story of Canada struggling to assert its sovereignty over the vast territories inherited from Britain. Failure to succeed was an open invitation for other countries to move in.

Northern exploration has been a fascination for Osborne since she completed her master's thesis on Captain Joseph-Elzéar Bernier, the man who in 1909 claimed the Arctic Archipelago for Canada.

Osborne believes that the rich history

of the region is yet to be fully documented, and in this book she does a great job of illustrating the monumental challenges faced by the ships and their crews. Despite some sections that provide detailed historical context, her descriptions of the hardships endured by these men will keep you turning the pages. — **Steve Ducharme**

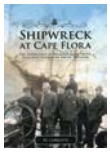
300 Years of Beer: An Illustrated History of Brewing in Manitoba
by Bill Wright and Dave Craig
Great Plains, Winnipeg, 2013
224 pp., illus., $35 paperback

If you are a lover of the frosty brew, then you're in luck. You can now grab a pint and cozy up to *300 Years of Beer: An Illustrated History of Brewing in Manitoba*. The book includes full-colour images of beer labels and beer ads plus archival photos showing the development of the province's brewing industry.

Written by Bill Wright and Dave Craig, self-proclaimed beer geeks, *300 Years of Beer* covers the earliest days of the brewing with the crew of the HBC's *Nonsuch* in 1670, the survival of the brewing industry during the temperance movement, the battle for corporate brewing supremacy in the late twentieth century, and many other events.

The authors note that, "in the days before 'truth in advertising,' manufacturers could make claims about the health-giving properties of their beverages without regulation." They also mention the up and comers of contemporary brewing in Manitoba.

If you have a thirst for history and a love of beer, then *300 Years of Beer* is just the book for you. Cheers! — **James Gillespie**

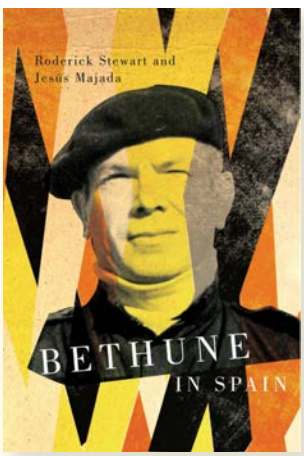


Shipwreck at Cape Flora: The Expeditions of Benjamin Leigh Smith, England's Forgotten Arctic Explorer
by P.J. Capelotti
University of Calgary Press, Calgary, 2013
299 pp., illus., $39.95 paperback

The voyages of Benjamin Leigh Smith in the late 1800s were anything but halcyon. In *Shipwreck at Cape Flora*, American archaeologist P.J. Capelotti delivers a comprehensive biography of Leigh Smith, one of the most significant but unsung Arctic explorers.

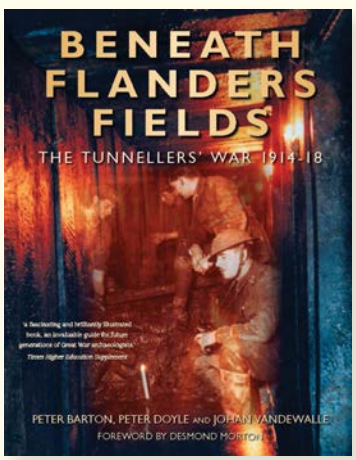
This is an incredible feat, since Leigh Smith never published his research and, unlike other explorers, shied away from any opportunity for fame and glory from his five Arctic expeditions. Drawing from unpublished diaries and journals and his own explorations of the places Leigh Smith visited, Capelotti describes Leigh Smith's life as very unusual and awkward right from childhood. This perhaps provides a plausible motive for the explorer's passion to find a part of the world with which he could better connect.

The entire book is a well-written adventure, but the best story is Capelotti's tale of the events leading up to Leigh Smith's fifth and final expedition, when his beloved ship *Eira* foundered off Cape Flora, Franz Josef Land, north of Russia. Remarkably, it is a story of survival, as not one member of the crew was lost during nearly a year trapped on the ice. The account of how they survived is also fascinating. — **Deborah Morrison**



Bethune in Spain
Jesús Majada and Roderick Stewart
Cloth, E-book

A recounting of Bethune's achievements in Spain and the events that led to his decision to assist the Loyalist forces.



NEW IN PAPERBACK

Beneath Flanders Fields
The Tunnellers' War 1914–18
Peter Barton, Peter Doyle, and Johan Vandewalle
Foreword by Desmond Morton
Paperback

The story of Britain and Germany's cat-and-mouse mine warfare – one of the most misunderstood, misrepresented, and mystifying conflicts of the Great War.

McGILL-QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY PRESS | mqup.ca

Follow us on Facebook.com/McGillQueens and Twitter.com/Scholarmqup

Bell Homestead National Historic Site, Brantford, Ontario.

BELL HOMESTEAD NHS

Site seeing

Ontario couple's bucket list includes visits to every single historic site in the province. by Nancy Silcox

There are 267 National Historic Sites in Ontario, I remarked to my spouse a while back. "What do you think about trying to visit them all?" I asked.

Usually agreeable to my bright ideas — especially if they include homegrown history and heritage — his interest was piqued.

"We'll learn a lot about our province and will have some fun and adventure along the way," I added. He was hooked — but then, who wouldn't be intrigued by stories of perseverance, innovation, inspiration, and bravery?

It would certainly be a challenge: With so many historic sites on our to-do list, it would be a multi-year project, for sure. They span the province from Maitland to Moosenee, Fort Frances to Front of Yonge. We'd start by doing day trips close to home in southwestern Ontario, then move farther afield. Within hours of our plan, we were on the road.

"National Historic Sites are places of profound importance to Canada, and bear witness to our defining moments," Parks Canada says in the introduction to its website. Nationally, there are more than 950 sites, of which Parks Canada administers 167. Ontario has the highest number of sites.

While most historic sites are buildings — typically former residences or places of business of prominent Canadians — the list also includes archaeological relics, battlefields, and important streets. Some are even underwater, such as the resting places of two War of 1812-era American warships, USS *Hamilton* and USS *Scourge*, which sank in Lake Ontario, near St. Catharines.

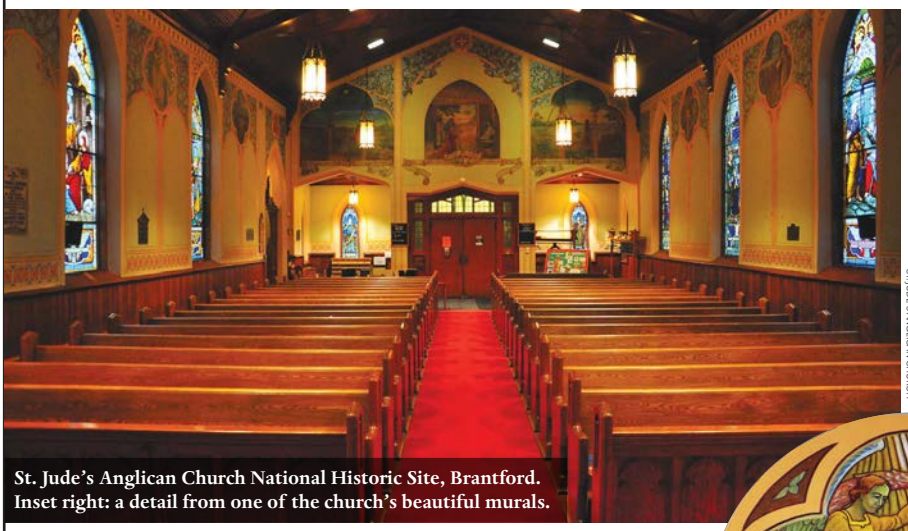
We decided to start our historic road trip at Guelph, with a visit to McCrae House. And what an opening act it was! Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, a Canadian First World War field surgeon, is best remembered today as the author of "In Flanders Fields" — the famous poem recited each Remembrance Day at cenotaphs across Canada.

McCrae House, a modest 1857 limestone cottage where McCrae was born, is filled with memorabilia and period furniture that helps tell the story of Guelph's most famous son.

The most prized artifacts are McCrae's war medals — once thought lost but recovered several years ago at a Toronto auction. McCrae's "In Flanders Fields" is on display, but it's not an original. Guelph Museum assistant curator Kathleen Wall noted that there exist only two known hand-written copies: one at Library and Archives Canada in Ottawa and another at McGill University's library. Wall adds that McCrae House staff would "love to get

Woodstock Museum National Historic Site, Woodstock, Ontario.

WOODSTOCK MUSEUM



St. Jude's Anglican Church National Historic Site, Brantford. Inset right: a detail from one of the church's beautiful murals.

ST. JUDE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

our hands on an original."

McCrae wrote the poem "In Flanders Fields" in 1915 during the Second Battle of Ypres, a bloodbath that saw the Allies suffer more than seventy thousand casualties. Unbelievably, McCrae was unhappy with the poem, and it was almost lost forever, said McCrae House curator Bev Dietrich.

"McCrae thought his effort was poor," Dietrich explained, "and he crumpled it up, unsigned, and leaves it behind." Thankfully, a colleague found the crumpled paper and, impressed, mailed the poem to the British magazine *Punch*.

"And so," Dietrich said, "John McCrae's 'In Flanders Fields' was initially published anonymously." Only when the author by chance read the magazine did he come forward.

McCrae died of pneumonia in January 1918, less than three years after "In Flanders Fields" was published.

In 1946, the Canadian Historic Sites and Monuments Board named him a Person of National Significance, and, twenty years later, McCrae House was named a Place of National Significance.

Our next destination was Woodstock's Town Hall, which famously played host in 1882 to the flamboyant British author Oscar Wilde.

At the time, Wilde — author of *The Picture of Dorian Gray* — was in the midst of a North American tour lecturing on the Aesthetic art movement. The Aesthetics, headed by British designer William Morris, advocated blending nature and art into home decoration through the use of vibrant colour, texture, and fine detailing.

Arriving in Woodstock, Wilde likely caused a mild sensation as he stepped off his train carrying a sunflower and dressed in blue velvet knickers and lacy shirt cuffs. History doesn't record the audience's reaction to Wilde's lecture, but at least one couple — E.D. Tillson and his wife Mary Ann, of nearby Tillsonburg, Ontario — were transfixed.

At the time, the wealthy Tillsons were busy constructing a new mansion, Annandale, built in the Queen Anne Revival style, and they were inspired by Wilde's speech, said Annandale House curator Patty Phelps: "If the Tillsons had never had the opportunity to hear Oscar Wilde speak, then Annandale would never have been decorated in the Aesthetic art movement style."

Annandale's walls and ceilings are startling in their intricacy of design and colour. Stunning three-dimensional plaster medallions encircle each chandelier of the main floor rooms. Sunlight streaming through stained and etched glass in the doors and windows brings a rich warmness to Annandale's parquet wood floors, carved doors, cupboards, and other woodwork.

By the early 1970s, Annandale House was down on its heels and slated for demolition. A group of Tillsonburg citizens banded together to purchase the home. The municipality restored the showplace as a museum, which is now open to the public. It was designated a National Historic Site in 1997. Parks Canada calls Annandale "one of the last and best surviving examples of Aesthetic movement decor in Canada."

Our last stop on the first leg of our National Historic Site tour took us to Brantford. We bypassed its more famous

sites, such as the Bell Homestead, childhood home of telephone inventor Alexander Graham Bell, and Chiefswood, the birthplace of Indian poetess Pauline Johnston, to visit a National Historic Site that's an unsung jewel: St. Jude's Anglican Church, built in 1871.

From the outside, St. Jude's seems like a rather ordinary yellow brick structure, built in the Victorian High Gothic style. However, inside we found what Parks Canada calls one of the "finest examples of wall decorations in the Arts and Crafts style."

The church owes its stunning interior to the Harris family of Brantford, which made its money in the farm implement business and in 1936 donated a sizable fund to St. Jude's for decoration. The church hired Peter Charles Browne, who headed the most prolific church decorating firm in Canada. Between 1905 and 1968, Browne and his artists painted 480 Canadian churches.

Browne was also influenced by the Aesthetic movement. Throughout the St. Jude's nave, Browne's muralists created a virtual bower of nature. Delicately executed leaves, vines, fruits, florals, and birds, in subtle tones of green, gold, and brown, provide a woodsy link between the twelve Biblical paintings found around the circumference of the nave.

Among the murals are images of John the Baptist, a nativity scene, and Jesus depicted as a child. Our favourite was *The Shepherds are Greeted by the Angels*, which depicts an angelic messenger spreading God's word amid a background of green hills and golden wheat fields.

In 1996, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board declared the murals to be of national historic significance. This designation comes with prestige, although, alas, no financial assistance for the church's upkeep.

The St. Jude's rector, Reverend Bill Graham, told us that some of the paintings are starting to flake, and the bill to restore them, as well as repair the church's bell, would tally more $250,000. With church membership dwindling, Graham said he's a bit worried about the future of St. Jude's.

Thus ended day one of our quest to visit all of Ontario's amazing historic sites. Four down and only 263 to go!

Nancy Silcox is a writer and academic researcher from New Hamburg, Ontario.

SIGNPOSTS: JOE BATT'S ARM, NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Locals claim this beautiful fishing outport was named after an eighteenth-century seaman who deserted from Captain Cook's crew. The island community sits on an inlet, or "arm," of the Atlantic. In the 1750s, a certain Joseph Batt settled here, and despite his checkered past, "the locals liked him so much that they gave it the name Joe Batt's Arm," according to town officials.

***Does your hometown boast a unique name? Email us at: Editors@CanadasHistory.ca and we may feature your community in an upcoming issue of* Canada's History.**

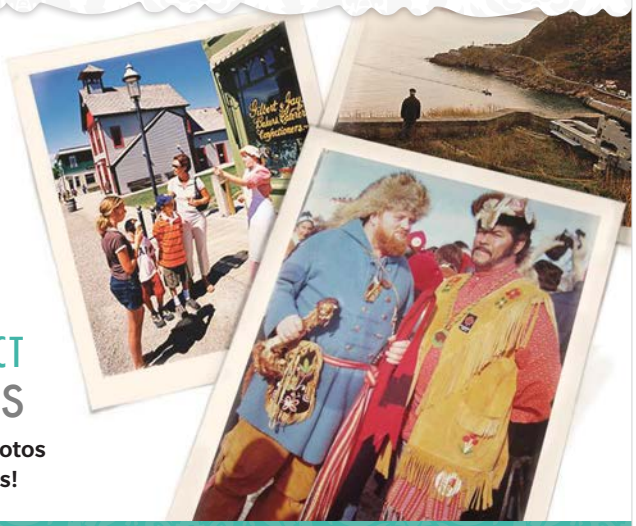
Canada's History is proud to announce:

Destinations

Your new online tool for history travel information. Use the trip planner to create your summer getaway today!

Start planning your trip now at:
CanadasHistory.ca/Destinations

CANADA'S HISTORY PHOTO CLUB



PICTURE PERFECT VACATIONS

Share your family photos from history hotspots!

Email your photos to PhotoClub@CanadasHistory.ca

CANADA'S HISTORY

Goodbye war, hello glamour

At the end of the Second World War, nylon stockings — which had been rationed during the war — came back onto the market. First introduced at the 1939 New York World's Fair by the DuPont Corporation, nylon stockings were an instant hit. They offered the delicate appearance of silk stockings at a far more affordable price. But, as the war progressed, they became scarce — nylon was needed to make parachutes for the air force.

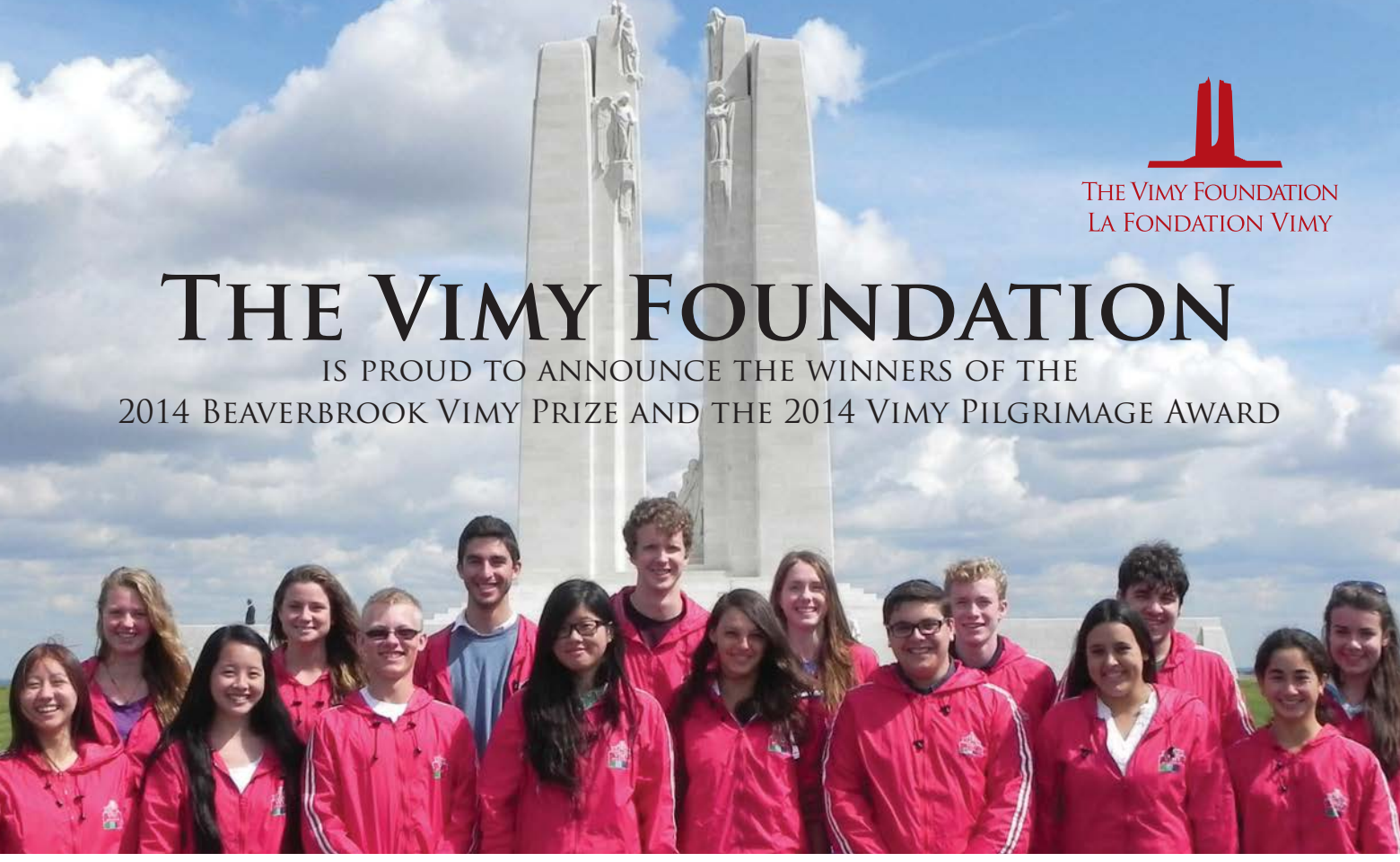
During the war, women often went bare-legged and drew a line down the backs of their legs to give the illusion of wearing stockings — a chilly prospect in cities like Edmonton. In this photo, which appeared on the front page of the *Edmonton Journal* in 1945, Trudy Potts (now Behan) publicizes the return of nylon stockings in Canada.

Only seventeen at the time of this photo, Trudy later met and married John Behan, one of the returning officers who may have trained with a parachute constructed from those redirected nylon supplies. John and his elder brothers Bill and Bob all served as navigation officers in the Canadian Air Force during the war.

This photo was taken by Trudy's uncle, Alfred Blyth, an award-winning photographer in Edmonton who was well-known for his photographs of the Calgary Stampede and several royal visits to Canada.

Submitted by Beverly Behan of New York, who is the daughter of Trudy and John Behan, now ages eighty-six and ninety, of White Rock, British Columbia.

Do you have a photograph that captures a moment, important or ordinary, in Canada's history? If so, have it copied (please don't send priceless originals) and mail it to Album, c/o *Canada's History*, Bryce Hall, Main Floor, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 2E9. Or email your submission to album@CanadasHistory.ca. Include a brief description of the photo, including its date and location. If possible, identify people in the photograph and provide further information about the event or situation illustrated. To have your posted submission returned, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.



THE VIMY FOUNDATION
LA FONDATION VIMY

THE VIMY FOUNDATION

IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE WINNERS OF THE 2014 BEAVERBROOK VIMY PRIZE AND THE 2014 VIMY PILGRIMAGE AWARD

As a charitable organization, it is the Vimy Foundation's mission to preserve and promote Canada's entire First World War legacy as symbolized by the victory at the Battle of Vimy Ridge on April 9, 1917. We believe it is essential for our youth to know our rich and inspiring past in order for them to become outstanding Canadians in the future. Because of this, the foundation aims to inspire young people from across the country with the story of Vimy. Through our awareness campaigns and education programs it is our hope that every Canadian – young and old, new and rooted – recognizes the importance of the victory and views Vimy as a symbol of our shared Canadian identity.

vimyfoundation.ca | vimy100.ca | info@vimyfoundation.ca | 514.904.1007 | 1470 rue Peel, Montreal, QC H4A 1T1

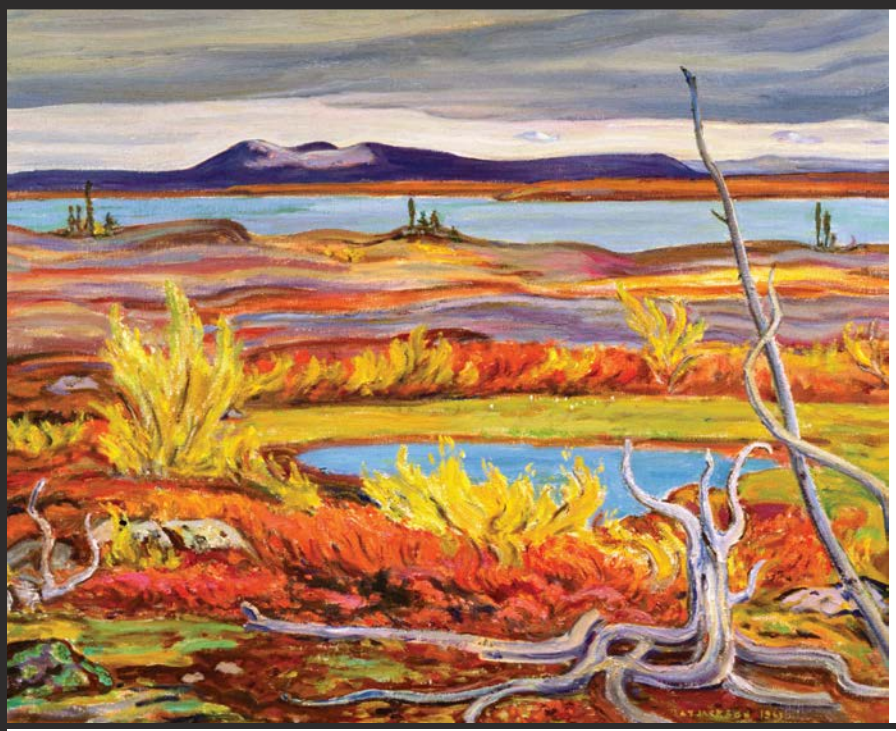
THE WINNERS OF THE 2014 BEAVERBROOK VIMY PRIZE

Sara Taylor - Brentwood College School - BC • Joshua Gatke - Ridley College - ON • George Polanyi-Williams - Monarch Park Collegiate - ON • Alyssa Walsh - Prince Andrew High School - NS • Lola Angus - Independent Learning Centre - ON • Wesley Routley - Golden Secondary School - BC • Meghan McLeod - Forest Heights Collegiate Institute - ON • Daniel Mateus - Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School - ON • Hannah Payumo - St. Boniface Diocesan High School - MB • Marianne Goyette - École d'éducation internationale - QC • Brandon Taschuk - W.L. Seaton Secondary School - BC • Audrée Bassette - Académie Lafontaine - QC • Nicholas Johnson – Selwyn House - QC • Megan Wisselink - Salisbury Composite High School - AB

THE WINNERS OF THE 2014 VIMY PILGRIMAGE AWARD

Zoe Anderson - Handsworth Secondary School - BC • Izabella Balcerzak - Our Lady of Mount Carmel - ON • Elena Basford - St. Mary's Academy - MB • Brandon Bosma - Argyll School - AB • Philippe Côté - Cégep de St-Jérôme - QC • Jo-Mary Crowchild-Fletcher - McNally High School - AB • Laurence Dubé - Cégep Ste-Foy - QC • Bailey Francis - Sacred Heart School of Halifax - NS • Michael Gorley - St. Peter Catholic High School - ON • Spencer Halickman - St. Georges High School - QC • Victoria Jackman - Mount Pearl Senior High - NL • Jessica Jacob - Meadowridge School - BC • Puncham Judge - Western Canada High School - AB • Jocelyn Leblanc - Aux quatre vents - NB • Zachary LeShane - Baccalieu Collegiate - NL • Graeme McIntosh - Bishop Carroll High School - AB • Alice Ng - Terry Fox Secondary School - BC • Leo Saccary - Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School - SK • Carl Schroeder - Waterdown District High School - ON • Keel Scruton - Selwyn House School - QC • Joelle Wilhelm - Woodland Christian High School - ON

THE BEAVERBROOK CANADIAN FOUNDATION
TD
Educational Tours
RBC
RBC Foundation®
ZSA LEGAL RECRUITMENT
GARDAWORLD
ENCOUNTERS WITH CANADA | RENCONTRES DU CANADA
NATIONAL POST
Canadian Heritage | Patrimoine canadien



TRANSFORMATIONS

A.Y. JACKSON & OTTO DIX

ART SHAPED BY WAR

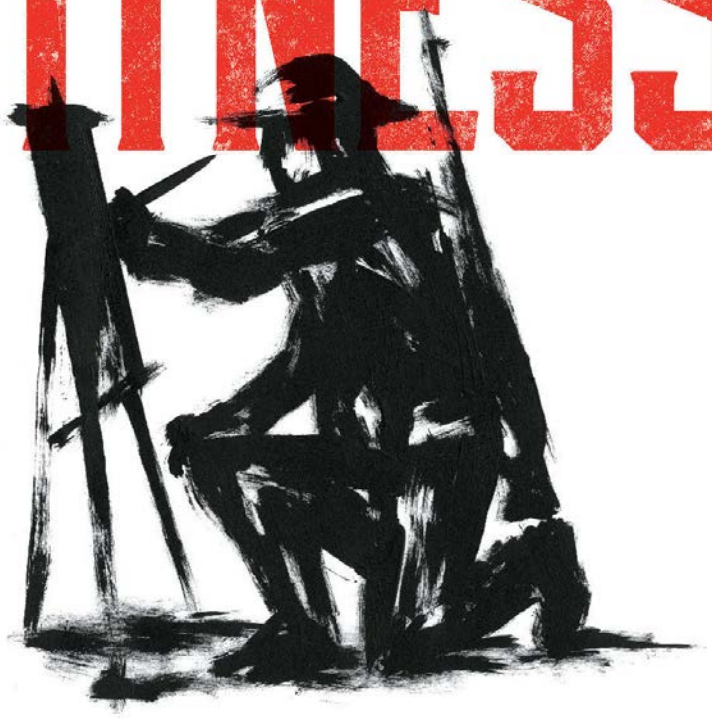
#JacksonDix
warmuseum.ca/transformations

An exhibition produced by the Canadian War Museum, with the generous support of the National Gallery of Canada.

← A.Y. Jackson, *Lake Rouvière*, 1961. © Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario / The City of Ottawa / The Ottawa Art Gallery

CANADIAN ART OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

WITNESS



#WitnessCWM
warmuseum.ca/witness

An exhibition developed by the Canadian War Museum.
Illustration: kaboom.ca

14 18 100

CANADIAN WAR MUSEUM | MUSÉE CANADIEN DE LA GUERRE

1 Vimy place, Ottawa ON

TD National Presenting Sponsor

Media Partner
Ottawa Citizen

Canada